VISION IAS

Test -10 Indian Constitution

- **Central Government:** President, Vice President, Prime minister, Central Council of Ministers
- Parliament and State Legislature
- **State Government:** Governor, Chief Minister, State Council of Ministers
- Indian Federalism and Centre-State Relations
- Emergency Provisions
- **Local Government**: Panchayati Raj, Local Urban Government

+ Current Affairs(JUNE-JULY 2021)

- President
- Vice President
- Prime minister
- Central Council of Ministers and Cabinet committees
- Posts like Cabinet Secretary, Chief Secretary, etc
- **Parliament:** The Council of States, The House of People, Disqualification and Vacation of Seats, Presiding Officers of Parliament, Houses: Their Working, Legislative Procedures in Parliament, Budget, Powers and Functions of Parliament: Its Role, Committees of

PT - 2022

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Test Booklet Series

TEST BOOKLET

C

GENERAL STUDIES (P) 2022 – Test – 3479

Time Allowed: Two Hours **Maximum Marks: 200**

INSTRUCTIONS

1. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE EXAMINATION, YOU SHOULD CHECK THAT THIS BOOKLET DOES **NOT** HAVE ANY UNPRINTED OR TURN OR MISSING PAGES OR ITEMS, ETC. IF SO, GET IT REPLACED BY A COMPLETE TEST BOOKLET.

2. ENCODE CLEARLY THE TEST BOOKLET SERIES **A, B, C** OR **D** AS THE CASE MAY BE IN THE APPROPRIATE PLACE IN THE ANSWER SHEET.

3. You have to enter your Roll Number on the Test Booklet in the Box provided alongside. **Do NOT** write anything else on the Test Booklet.

4. This Test Booklet contains **100** items (Questions). Each item is printed in **English.** Each item comprises four responses (answers). You will select the response which you want to mark on the Answer Sheet. In case you feel that there is more than one correct response with you consider the best. In any case, choose **ONLY ONE** response for each item.

5. You have to mark all your responses ONLY on the separate Answer Sheet provided. See direction in the answers sheet.

6. All items carry equal marks. Attempt all items. Your total marks will depend only on the number of **correct responses** marked by you in the answer sheet. For **every incorrect** response **1/3rd of the allotted marks** will be deducted.

7. Before you proceed to mark in the Answer sheet the response to various items in the Test booklet, you have to fill in some particulars in the answer sheets as per instruction sent to you with your Admission Certificate.

8. After you have completed filling in all responses on the answer sheet and the examination has concluded, you should hand over to Invigilator only the answer sheet. You are permitted to take away with you the Test Booklet.

9. Sheet for rough work are appended in the Test Booklet at the end.

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1. Which of the following statements is correct in the context of the Tenth Schedule of the Indian Constitution?

(a) The provisions of Tenth Schedule are not applicable to the members of Rajya Sabha.

(b) A member disqualified under Tenth Schedule will not be eligible to contest the by-elections.

(c) The decision of the deciding authority about disqualification under the Tenth Schedule is final and can not be subject to judicial review.

(d) The question of disqualification under the Tenth Schedule is decided by the Presiding officer of the House.

2. Consider the following statements:

1. Article 358 suspends Article 19 completely while Article 359 suspends all other rights automatically.
2. Article 359 extends to the entire country whereas Article 358 may extend to the entire country or a part of it.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

3. Consider the following statements about the Notified Area Committee:

1. It is a partially elected and partially nominated body created for the administration of a fast-developing town.
2. The Chairperson of the committee is elected by the members among themselves.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

4. The term 'Project 75I' sometimes mentioned in the news, is related to:

(a) Engagement with Central Asian Countries for mineral exploration through joint partnerships.

(b) Program to mark 75th year of Indian independence in 2021.

(c) Acquisition of diesel-electric submarines by Indian Navy.

(d) Creation of a specialised force to fight against 75 Left Wing Extremism affected districts.

5. Which of the following statements about the Prime Minister of India is ***not*** correct?

(a) He advises the President with regard to summoning and proroguing of the sessions of the Parliament.

(b) He can recommend dissolution of the Lok Sabha to President at any time.

(c) He is the principal channel of communication between the President and the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.

(d) He can ask a minister to resign or advise the President to dismiss him in case of difference of opinion.

6. The Blue-Finned Mahseer, which was on the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) red list as 'endangered', has now moved to the 'least concern' status. In this context consider the following statements regarding mahseer:

1. They prefer clean and fast flowing waters.
2. They are only found in Himalayan waters in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

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7. Which of the following statements is/are correct with reference to the Vice-President of India?

1. A formal impeachment is not required for his removal.
2. He can be removed by a resolution of the Rajya Sabha passed by a majority of all the then members of the House and agreed to by the Lok Sabha.
3. No Ground has been mentioned in the Constitution for his removal.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 1 only

8. Consider the following statements with reference to the Central Council of Ministers:

1. A nominated member can be appointed as minister, but within six months he must become an elected member of either House of Parliament.
2. A minister who is a member of one House of Parliament has the right to speak and to take part in the proceedings of the other House.
3. The salaries and allowances of ministers are given in the Second Schedule of the Indian Constitution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 1 and 2 only

9. The new species named Pyrostria Laljii has been discovered from which part of India recently?

(a) Andaman and Nicobar Islands
(b) Lakshadweep islands
(c) Andhra Pradesh
(d) Karnataka

10. Consider the following statements regarding the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996:

1. It extended the provisions related to panchayats to the tribal and scheduled areas covered by the 5th and 6th schedules.
2. It aims to safeguard and preserve the customs and traditions of the tribal communities.
3. Its objective is to provide self-rule for the bulk of the tribal population.

Which of the statements given above is/are ***not*** correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

11. Consider the following statements with reference to double membership of the Parliament:

1. A person elected to both the Houses of Parliament, must intimate within 10 days in which House she desires to serve or her seat in Rajya Sabha becomes vacant.
2. A sitting member of one House if elected to other House, his/her seat in the first House becomes vacant.
3. A person elected to two seats in a House must exercise her option for one, otherwise, both seats become vacant.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

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12. Arrange the following stages in the enactment of a regular budget in the correct chronological order.

1. Presentation of budget
2. Discussion on the budget
3. Voting on demands for grants
4. Passing of appropriation bill

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 3-2-1-4
(b) 4-1-2-3
(c) 1-2-3-4
(d) 1-2-4-3

13. Which of the following funds are managed by the Prime Minister's Office?

1. Prime Minister National Relief Fund (PMNRF)
2. National Defence Fund (NDF)
3. National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF)
4. National Investment Fund (NIF)

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

14. Consider the following statements with reference to the powers of the Parliament:

1. It can punish persons, including its members, for breach of privilege or contempt of the House.
2. It can recommend for the removal of the Comptroller and Auditor General to the President.
3. It can entirely exclude judicial review of legislations by placing them under the ninth schedule.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

15. Consider the following statements regarding Quorum in the parliament:

1. It is fixed at 20% by the rules of procedure of the respective houses.
2. It can be amended by the Parliament by a simple majority.
3. It includes the presiding officer of the House.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

16. Which of the following statements about the National Investigation Agency (NIA) is/are correct?

1. It reports directly to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).
2. It has the power to investigate offences committed outside India.
3. State governments may transfer cases to NIA after prior approval of the Central Government.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

17. Consider the following statements regarding State Legislative Councils:

1. The creation and abolition of state legislative councils is done by their respective state assemblies.
2. The passing of the resolution for the creation of a legislative council requires special majority in the state assembly of the concerned state.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

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18. This committee considers the matters of procedure and conduct of business in the House and recommends necessary amendments or additions to the rules of the House. Speaker is the ex-officio chairman of this committee in Lok Sabha and Chairman is the ex-officio chairman of this committee in Rajya Sabha.

Which of the following committees is being described in the passage given above?

(a) General Purposes Committee
(b) Rules Committee
(c) Business Advisory Committee
(d) Committee on Government Assurances

19. The President can be removed from office by a process of impeachment for 'violation of the Constitution. In this context, which of the following statements is ***not*** correct?

(a) The Constitution does not define the meaning of the phrase 'violation of the Constitution'.
(b) The impeachment charges can be initiated by either House of Parliament.
(c) The nominated members of either House of Parliament can participate in impeachment process.
(d) The impeachment resolution should be passed by a majority of two-thirds of the total members present and voting.

20. 'Jivan Vayu' recently seen in the news, is a/an:

(a) device capable of delivering high flow oxygen to patients.
(b) program launched by armed forces to distribute oxygen.
(c) initiative of the Central Pollution Control Board to curb pollutants from vehicles.
(d) plantation drive as a part of ' Azadi ka Amrit Mahaotsav'.

21. Recently, Kandla SEZ (Special Economic Zone) became the first green SEZ to achieve the Indian Green Building Council's (IGBC) Green Cities Platinum Rating. In this context, consider the following statements regarding Indian Green Building Council:

1. It is a statutory body under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
2. It is an established member of the World Green Building Council.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

22. Recently, Dehing Patkai has been notified as the seventh National Park (NP) of the state. It is also referred as 'The Amazon of East'. This National Park is located in:

(a) Meghalaya
(b) Mizoram
(c) Assam
(d) Nagaland

23. Which of the following statements is ***not*** correct about the Governor?

(a) The Constitution provides for the appointment of the same person as Governor for two or more states.
(b) He holds office during the pleasure of the President.
(c) The term of 5 years of office of Governor is mentioned in the Constitution.
(d) He should be qualified for election as a member of the state legislative assembly.

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24. As per the constitution of India, which of the following statements is correct about the President of India?

(a) He should be qualified for election as a member of the Rajya Sabha.
(b) His election is held in accordance with the system of proportional representation and the voting is by open ballot.
(c) A person can be elected as the President for any number of terms.
(d) The oath of office to the President is administered by the Vice-President.

25. World Giving Index is released by:

(a) Charities Aid Foundation
(b) Amnesty International
(c) United Nations Children's Fund
(d) GreenPeace International

26. With regards to the Chief Secretary of the state, consider the following statements:

1. He is the chief advisor to the Chief Minister in all the matters of the cabinet.
2. He cannot be removed from the office until the completion of his 2 years tenure.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

27. Which of the following provisions in the Part XVIII of Indian Constitution was/were added by the 44th Amendment Act of Indian Constitution?

1. Written recommendation from Cabinet for National Emergency.
2. Periodic Parliamentary approval of National Emergency for extension.
3. 'Armed rebellion' as one of the grounds for imposing National Emergency.

Select the correct answers using the code given below:

(a) 1, 2 and 3
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

28. Article 253 of the Indian constitution provides for the establishment of Inter state council. Which of the following is ***not*** a member of the Inter-State Council?

1. Prime Minister
2. Chief Ministers
3. Lt. Governors of Union Territories having a Legislative Assembly

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) None

29. Consider the following pairs:

Type of Cut Motion		***Action***
1. Policy Cut Motion	:	The amount of the demand be reduced to Re.1/-
2. Economy Cut Motion	:	The amount of the demand be reduced by a specified amount.
3. Token Cut Motion	:	The amount of the demand be reduced by Rs.100/-

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 3 only

30. Consider the following statements about the Central Council of Ministers:

1. The Constitution does not classify categories of the council of Ministers.
2. The total number of ministers, including the Prime Minister, in the Council of Ministers, shall not exceed 15% of the total strength of the Parliament.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

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31. Recently NASA has selected two missions named DAVINCI+ and VERITAS. In the context of these missions consider the following statements:

1. NASA has selected both missions to explore Venus.
2. The missions are part of NASA's Discovery Program.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

32. Consider the following statements with reference to the veto power of the President:

1. The Qualified veto is not available to the President of India.
2. The President has no veto power in respect of a Constitutional Amendment bill.
3. The President does not possess a suspensive veto in the case of money bills.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

33. Consider the following pairs with respect to the parliamentary proceedings in India:

Proceeding		***Description***
1. Adjournment	:	It suspends the work in a sitting for a specified time
2. Prorogation	:	It not only terminates a sitting but also a session of the House
3. Adjournment sine die	:	It terminates a sitting of the Parliament for an indefinite period.

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

34. Which of the following varieties of mango have been accorded GeographicaI Indication tag?

1. Khirsapati
2. Lakshmanbhog
3. Chausa
4. Zardalu
5. Alphonso

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 5 only
(d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

35. Which of the following statements is/are correct with regards to the Panchayats?

1. Elections to constitute panchayat shall be completed before the expiry of its duration of 5 years.
2. In case of premature dissolution new panchayat remains in the office only for the remaining period.
3. It shall not be necessary to hold elections if the remaining period for dissolved panchayat is less than 6 months.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

36. In which of the following parameters, Minister of State and Cabinet Ministers are equivalent in stature?

1. Oath
2. Removal
3. Accountability to Lok Sabha

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1, 2 and 3
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 2 only

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37. Recently the OPEC+ nations reached an agreement over oil production level for their member nations. Which of the following countries is ***not*** a member of OPEC+?

(a) Iran
(b) Congo
(c) Venezuela
(d) Peru

38. Consider the following statements about the reservation of seats for Scheduled Caste (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) in the Panchayati Raj Institution:

1. Not less than one-third of the total number of seats reserved for SC/ST shall be reserved for women belonging to the respective community.
2. Reservation for SC and STs extends to the position of Chairperson at all three levels.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

39. Consider the following statements about the pardoning power of the President:

1. The President while exercising this power, function as a court of appeal.
2. The President while exercising this power can act on his discretion.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

40. Which of the following fields for the nomination of members to Rajya Sabha by President are mentioned in the Indian Constitution?

1. Literature
2. Art
3. Sports
4. Social Service

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1, 3 and 4 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2, 3 and 4
(d) 1, 2 and 4 only

41. India's GDP growth forecast for the year 2021 was slashed in the latest World Economic Outlook report. In this context, consider the following statements regarding the World Economic Outlook report:

1. It is released by International Monetary Fund (IMF).
2. It is usually published twice a year.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

42. Which of the following statements are ***not*** correct regarding the composition of State Assembly?

1. The minimum and maximum strength of assembly is fixed at 60 and 500 respectively, for all states.
2. The Governor can nominate two members from Anglo-Indian community.
3. The Constitution provides for the reservation of women in the assembly of each state.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1, 2 and 3
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 2 only

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43. Which of the following statements is/are correct with reference to "Full Faith and Credit" clause related to Public Acts, Records and Judicial proceedings?

1. The term 'public acts' includes only legislative acts of the Government.
2. The judgements of civil courts in any part of India are capable of execution anywhere within India.
3. It mandates the courts of a state to enforce the penal laws of another state.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

44. Consider the following statements:

1. 'Extra-territorial' legislation can only be made by the Parliament of India.
2. The power to make laws with respect to residuary matters lies with the Parliament of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

45. Which of the following bills do not lapse on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha?

1. A bill pending in the Rajya Sabha but not passed by the Lok Sabha.
2. A bill pending in the Rajya Sabha but passed by the Lok Sabha.
3. A bill passed by both Houses but returned by the President for reconsideration of Houses.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

46. In a recent case before Madras High Court, it was held that National Green Tribunal (NGT), Delhi Bench is not superior to other zonal benches of NGT. In this context, NGT does ***not*** have a zonal bench at which of the following places?

(a) Mumbai
(b) Bhopal
(c) Chennai
(d) Kolkata

47. In the context of urban local self-government, with respect to the post of Mayors in India consider the following statements:

1. He is the executive and legislative head of the Municipal Corporation.
2. He does not have any fixed term of office.
3. He is elected indirectly in all the states.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3 only

48. Green Sohra Afforestation Campaign has been launched recently as part of afforestation efforts to keep Northeast Evergreen. In this context, Sohra which is one of the wettest places in India is located in the state of

(a) Assam
(b) Meghalaya
(c) Manipur
(d) Arunachal Pradesh

49. The term 'Local Authority' implies:

1. It must have Separate legal existence.
2. It must function in a defined area.
3. It must have the power to raise funds.
4. it must be elected fully or partially.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1, 2 and 4 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

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50. Consider the following statements with respect to individual privileges of a member of the Parliament:

1. They cannot be arrested during the session and 40 days before and 40 days after the session for civil cases only.
2. They are exempted from jury service only when Parliament is in session.
3. They cannot be questioned in any court for what they say in Parliamentary committees.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

51. Which of the following offices enjoy parliamentary privileges?

1. The President of India
2. All members of both the Houses of Parliament
3. A minister who is not a member of Parliament
4. The Attorney General of India

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1, 3 and 4 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2 and 4 only

52. Consider the following statements about revenue generation/income of urban local bodies:

1. They receive grants from the Centre as well as State Governments for developmental programmes.
2. The devolution of funds from state governments to urban local bodies based on the recommendation of the State Finance Commission.
3. They can borrow from financial institutions with the prior approval of the Governor.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

53. Consider the following statements:

1. The discretionary grants under Article 282 are given to the states on the recommendation of Comptroller and Auditor General of India.
2. The statutory grants under Article 275 are given to the states on the recommendation of the Finance Commission.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

54. Consider the following statements regarding laws made under the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992:

1. Parliament may by law extend the provisions of this act to the Tribal areas.
2. Such laws shall not be deemed to be a constitutional amendment under article 368.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

55. Consider the following statements about the Vice-President of India:

1. He can hold office beyond his term of five years until his successor assumes charge.
2. He takes an oath to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of India.
3. He can resign from his office by writing to the Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1 only

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56. Consider the following statements about the provisions of the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992:

1. It is applicable to the Union territories only on the recommendations of the President.
2. Governor may specify District Planning committee to consult any such organization for preparing developmental plans.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

57. Consider the following statements regarding the borrowing powers of the Centre and states in India:

1. Union Government can borrow from within India and abroad, subject to the limit set by the Parliament of India.
2. State Governments can borrow within India upon the guarantees of the Consolidated Fund of the State.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

58. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued an advisory to banks and other financial institutions for the transition from London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) by December 2021 to any widely accepted alternative reference rate. What is LIBOR?

(a) Rate at which European banks sell foreign currencies to its customers.
(b) Rate at which world's leading banks lend money to Corporates.
(c) Rate at which world's leading banks charge each other for short-term loans.
(d) None of the above

59. Consider the following statements with reference to the Parliament of India:

1. President is an ex-officio member of both the houses of the Parliament of India.
2. President has the right to address and send messages to either house of the Parliament on any matter or bill pending.
3. Both the houses of the Parliament can be summoned and pro-rogued by the President.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 2 only

60. *This commission was set up in June 1983 to examine the relationship and balance of power between state and central governments and suggest changes within the framework of the Constitution. It recommended that the Centre should consult the states before making a law on a subject of the concurrent list and a State's consent should be made obligatory for formation of new states. It also suggested that the Institution of All-India Services should be strengthened more.*

Which of the following commissions/ committees is best described by the passage given above.

(a) Liberhan Commission
(b) Sarkaria Commission
(c) Punchhi Commission
(d) Shah Commission

61. A Supplementary Grant is granted:

(a) when a need has arisen during the current financial year for additional expenditure upon some new service not contemplated in the budget.
(b) when the amount authorized by the Parliament in the budget for a particular service during a financial year is found to be insufficient for that year.
(c) for a special purpose and forms no part of the current service of any financial year.
(d) None

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62. What is 'Indrajaal', sometimes seen in the news?

(a) It is India's first indigenous drone defense dome.
(b) A project launched for artificial rain through cloud seeding in Bundelkhand region.
(c) A traditional rainwater harvesting technique in the Thar desert.
(d) Artificial intelligence-powered high-performance supercomputer developed in India for cyclone prediction.

63. Consider the following statements with reference to the Speaker of the Lok Sabha:

1. She summons and presides over the joint sitting of the two Houses of the Parliament.
2. She can allow a 'secret' sitting of the House at the request of the Leader of the House.
3. She is the Chairman of the Business Advisory Committee and Rules Committee.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

64. Consider the following statements:

1. A minister who is not a member of either House, cannot participate in a joint sitting of both the Houses.
2. A minister belonging to the Lok Sabha can participate in the proceedings of Rajya Sabha without being entitled to vote.
3. The attorney general of India can speak and take part in the proceedings of either house but not in a joint sitting of both the Houses.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

65. With reference to the Jiyo Parsi scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It is a Central Sector Scheme under the Ministry of Minority Affairs.
2. The scheme is meant for only the Parsi community.
3. Its main objective is to arrest the declining trend of the Parsi population by adopting a scientific protocol and structured interventions.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

66. With regard to the Special Purpose Agencies in urban governance, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. These are private entities working with government bodies.
2. These are created as a function-based agency rather than area-based.
3. These agencies act as subordinate agencies of local municipal bodies.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

67. Who among the following is the Chairman of The Indian Atomic Energy Commission (AEC)?

(a) Prime Minister of India
(b) Secretary to the Government of India in department of science and technology
(c) Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Atomic Energy
(d) Union minister of Ministry of Science and Technology & Earth Sciences

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68. Consider the following statements:

1. Digital Media Content Regulatory Council is set up as per the mandate of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021.
2. Over the Top (OTT) platforms and news and current affairs content on online platforms come under the regulatory ambit of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

69. Consider the following statements about the President of India:

1. In the exercise of all his functions, the President has to act in accordance with the advice of the council of ministers.
2. All executive actions of the Government of India are formally taken in his name.
3. He can declare any area as a scheduled area.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 1 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

70. Consider the following statements about the election of the Vice-President of India:

1. The electoral college for his election consists of both elected and nominated members of the Parliament.
2. The election of a person as Vice-President can be declared invalid if the electoral college was incomplete.
3. It is held in accordance with the First Past the Post System.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3
(b) 1 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

71. With reference to the organizational set up of the Government of India, arrange the following in order from top to bottom?

1. Department
2. Division
3. Wing
4. Section

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 4-1-2-3
(b) 1-3-2-4
(c) 2-3-1-4
(d) 1-2-3-4

72. Military exercise CORPAT was recently seen in the news. It is held between India and

(a) Srilanka
(b) Indonesia
(c) France
(d) Thailand

73. With reference to the constitution of India, consider the following statements:

1. Under the Constitution of India, the leader of the Lok Sabha shall always be the Prime Minister.
2. The Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha have not been accorded any statutory recognition.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

74. Consider the following statements regarding the Speaker of the State Assembly:

1. The speaker remains in the office during the life of the assembly.
2. The speaker is the final interpreter of the provisions of the Constitution of India within the assembly.

Which of the statements given above is/are ***not*** correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

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75. In the context of fertilizer production in India, consider the following statements regarding Rock Phosphate:

1. India is self sufficient in Rock Phosphate production.
2. Rock Phosphate is a key raw material in the production of NPK fertilizers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

76. With reference to the ordinance making powers of the President, consider the following statements:

1. Indian constitution provides restrictions on re-promulgation of Ordinances.
2. Whenever a bill seeking to replace an ordinance is introduced in the House, a statement explaining the circumstances that had necessitated immediate legislation should also be placed before the House.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

77. Which of the following are functions of the Legal Services Authorities?

1. To organize Lok Adalats for amicable settlement of disputes.
2. To organize legal awareness camps in the rural areas.
3. To provide free and competent legal services to eligible persons.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

78. With reference to the effects of a National Emergency, consider the following statements:

1. State governments are suspended and the center becomes empowered to execute on any matter.
2. The life of Lok Sabha may be extended beyond its normal term.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

79. Consider the following statements with reference to the duration of the Lok Sabha:

1. On recommendations of the Rajya Sabha, the President can dissolve the Lok Sabha at any time even before the completion of five years.
2. President can extend the term of Lok Sabha during the period of national emergency.

Which of the statements given above is/are ***not*** correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

80. Which of the following subjects are part of the Union List in the Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution?

1. Agriculture
2. Education
3. Currency
4. Public Health
5. Banking

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 3 and 5 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 4 and 5 only
(d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

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81. Consider the following statements with reference to the responsibility of ministers:

1. When the Lok Sabha passes a no-confidence motion against the council of ministers, each minister needs to resign separately.
2. The principle of collective responsibility means that if any minister disagrees with a cabinet decision and is not prepared to defend it, he must resign.
3. There is no provision in the Constitution for the system of legal responsibility of a minister.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

82. Which of the following statements is/are correct about the Governor?

1. The Constitution provides for minimum grounds upon which a governor may be removed by the President.
2. The Constitution provides when the Governor's office falls vacant due to death, the Chief Justice of the concerned State High Court acts or discharges the functions of the Governor.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

83. Which of the following statements with respect to the Speaker of Lok Sabha is/are ***not*** correct?

1. The date of election of the Speaker is fixed by the Pro tem Speaker.
2. When a resolution for the removal of the speaker is under consideration, she can neither preside the sitting nor vote on such resolution.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

84. Consider the following statements:

1. Natural rubber is not naturally suited for colder conditions.
2. India has developed the world's first genetically modified rubber plant.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

85. Consider the following statements regarding the President's Rule in a State:

1. It can be extended for a maximum period of three years without the approval of the Parliament.
2. It has no effect on Fundamental Rights of the citizens.
3. There is no change in the powers and functions of the State High Court during President rule.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 2 and 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

86. In which of the following matters is the Centre empowered to give executive directions to the states?

1. The measures to be taken for the protection of rail transport within the state.
2. The drawing up and execution of the schemes essential for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes in the state.
3. The construction and maintenance of the means of communication of national or military importance.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

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87. Consider the following statements regarding unstarred questions:

1. The first hour of every parliamentary sitting is allotted for answering questions.
2. It requires an oral answer from the concerned minister.
3. Supplementary questions can be asked following the reply to an unstarred question.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

88. Consider the following grounds with respect to the disqualification under Tenth Schedule:

1. If a member abstains from the voting in the House contrary to the direction given by his political party.
2. If any independently elected member joins any political party.
3. If any nominated member joins any political party in government after the expiry of six months.

Which of the grounds given above can lead to disqualification?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

89. Cryptogams are one of the oldest groups of plant species, existing since the Jurassic era. India's first cryptogamic garden was recently opened at

(a) Himachal Pradesh
(b) Uttarakhand
(c) Uttar Pradesh
(d) Karnataka

90. The latest edition of the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) was hosted by the French Navy at La Réunion island. Which of the following countries are the members of this Symposium?

1. France
2. United Kingdom
3. Pakistan
4. Australia

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 3 and 4 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

91. Which of the following bodies can request the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India to audit the accounts of Panchayats?

1. Governor of a state
2. President
3. Administrator of a Union territory having a legislative assembly

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

92. Consider the following statements in relation to the Rajya Sabha:

1. It is a permanent body where one-third of its members retire every second year.
2. The Constitution has fixed the term of office of the members of the Rajya Sabha to six years.
3. The retiring members are eligible for re-election and renomination any number of times.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 2 only

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93. Consider the following pairs:

Motions		***Description***
1. Privilege Motion	:	It can be moved to censure a minister who has committed breach of privilege.
2. Censure Motion	:	It can be moved against an individual minister or group of ministers for specific policies and actions.
3. No-confidence Motion	:	It can be moved only against the entire council of ministers and need not state the reason for its adoption.

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

94. Consider the following statements regarding 'Money Bill' in the State Legislature:

1. A money bill can be introduced in the legislature only after the prior recommendation of governor.
2. When a money bill is reserved for the consideration of the President, he cannot return the bill for reconsideration, he may either give his assent or withhold his assent to the bill.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

95. Which of the following statements is/are correct with reference to the duration of Lok Sabha?

1. President is authorized to dissolve the Lok Sabha before completion of five years, however this cannot be challenged in any Court of law.
2. The term of Lok Sabha can be extended during national emergency by a law of Parliament for one year at a time for any length of time.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

96. Consider the following statements about the Prime Minister of India:

1. He holds office during the pleasure of the President.
2. His salary and allowances are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.
3. His resignation automatically dissolves the council of ministers.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 2 only

97. In a state legislature, a bill is passed by the legislative assembly for the second time after reconsideration and sent to the legislative council. The legislative council rejects the bill or does not pass the bill within one month.

In this case what will be the future course of action of that state legislature?

(a) The bill will be sent to the Governor, in the form as passed by the legislative assembly after reconsideration, for his assent.
(b) The Governor will summon a joint sitting of both the houses of the state legislature to resolve a deadlock.
(c) The Governor will reserve the bill for the President.
(d) The bill becomes dead and legislative assembly has to bring a new bill for the said purpose.

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98. Consider the following statements with reference to National Emergency:

1. During National Emergency the President of India can issue ordinances on the state subjects, if the Parliament is not in session.
2. The state legislatures are suspended during the operation of National emergency.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

99. Which of the following statements is correct regarding the appointment of the Prime Minister?

(a) The Constitution contain specific procedure for the selection and appointment of the Prime Minister.
(b) A person must prove his majority in the Lok Sabha before he is appointed as the Prime Minister.
(c) A person who is not a member of either House of the Parliament can not be appointed as Prime Minister.
(d) When no party has a clear majority in the Lok Sabha, then the President may exercise his personal discretion in the selection and appointment of the Prime Minister.

100. Consider the following statements in the context of budget presentation in the Parliament:

1. The Speaker normally applies 'guillotine' on the first day of the budget session of Parliament.
2. Generally 'vote on account' is passed before a general discussion on a budget takes place.
3. The passage of the token cut motion in Lok Sabha may lead to the resignation of the government.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

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ANSWERS & EXPLANATIONS
GENERAL STUDIES (P) TEST – 3479 (2022)

Q 1.D

- The Tenth Schedule contains the provisions with respect to the disqualification of **members of Parliament** and the **state legislature** on the ground of defection.
- The question of disqualification under the Tenth Schedule is **decided by the Chairman in the case of Rajya Sabha** and **Speaker in the case of Lok Sabha** (**and not by the president of India**).
    - Originally, the act provided that the decision of the presiding officer is final and can not be questioned in any court. However, in **Kihoto Holohan case (1993),** the Supreme Court declared this provision as unconstitutional and, **is subject to judicial review** on the grounds of *mala fides*.
- In 1992, the Supreme Court ruled that the decision of the Chairman/Speaker in this regard is subject to judicial review.
- A by-election is held to fill a vacant electorate seat — for example, if a member of Parliament becomes disqualified, resigns or dies.
    - A member disqualified under Tenth Schedule will be eligible to contest the by-elections.
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 2.D

- Some of the important differences between Articles 358 and 359 are:
- Article 358 suspends Article 19 completely while Article 359 d**oes not empower the President for the suspension of the enforcement** of Articles 20 and 21. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- Article 358 extends to the entire country whereas Article 359 may extend to the entire country or a part of it. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- Article 358 **automatically suspends** the fundamental rights under Article 19 as soon as the emergency is declared.
    - On the other hand, Article 359 **does not automatically suspend** any Fundamental Right. It only empowers the president to suspend **the enforcement** of the specified Fundamental Rights.

Q 3.D

- Notified Area Committee is constituted for the fast-developing town or a town that doesn't have all conditions necessary for a municipality but otherwise is considered important by the government. It is notified by a government gazette that mentions the provisions of the state municipality act that applies to it. So only mentioned part of the act in the notification applies to notified area.
- **Statement 1 is not correct:** It is an entirely a nominated body that is all the members are appointed by the government.
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** The chairperson is also appointed by the government along with the members. So, members of the committee do not participate in the election of Chairperson

Q 4.C

- **Recent Context:** India's Defense Ministry Issues First P-75I Submarine Tender.
- **Project-75(I) envisages indigenous construction of six modern conventional submarines with contemporary equipment, weapons &sensors including Fuel-Cell based AIP (Air Independent Propulsion Plant) etc.**
- AIP technology allows conventional diesel-electric submarines to remain underwater for longer, enhancing its lethality. Other countries to have an AIP system include China, Germany, Sweden, France, Spain and Russia.

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- P-75I submarine project – estimated at over $5.5 billion – is the first acquisition India has undertaken through its Strategic Partnership procurement model.
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 5.C

- The Prime Minister enjoys the following powers as head of the Union council of ministers:
  - He recommends persons who can be appointed as ministers by the president. The President can appoint only those persons as ministers who are recommended by the Prime Minister.
  - He allocates and reshuffles various portfolios among the ministers.
  - **He can ask a minister to resign or advise the President to dismiss him in case of difference of opinion.**
  - He presides over the meeting of council of ministers and influences its decisions.
  - He guides, directs, controls, and coordinates the activities of all the ministers.
  - He can bring about the collapse of the co-uncil of ministers by resigning from office.
  - **He is the principal channel of communication between the President and the council of ministers. Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**
  - He advises the president with regard to the appointment of important officials like attorney general of India, Comptroller and Auditor General of India, chairman and members of the UPSC, election commissioners, chairman and members of the finance commission and so on.
  - **He advises the President with regard to summoning and proroguing of the sessions of the Parliament.**
  - **He can recommend dissolution of the Lok Sabha to President at any time.**
  - He announces government policies on the floor of the House.

Q 6.A

- **Recent Context:** The Blue-Finned Mahseer, which was on the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) red list as 'endangered', has now moved to the 'least concern' status.
  - The Mahseer (roughly translates as mahi – fish and sher – tiger, is also referred as "tiger among fish"). It is **important indicator of freshwater ecosystems.**
  - Out of 47 subspecies of Mahseer 15 are found in India and rest in other range countries in South Asia.
  - **Mahseer prefers clean, fast flowing and well oxygenated waters for breeding and migration. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
  - **They are omnivorous.**
    - **Major Types of Mahseer**

Golden Mahseer	Found in the Himalayan streams and rivers. Its IUCN status is **'Endangered'**.
Blue Fin / Deccan Mahseer	Found in rivers of Deccan Plateau and South India.
Red Finned Mahseer	Found in the rivers of central India.
Chocolate Mahseer	Found in the North Eastern region
Orange-Finned /Humpback Mahseer	Found in Cauvery River and its tributaries. IUCN status is **'Critically endangered'**

- **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 7.C

- Article 67 of the Indian Constitution states that Vice-President can be removed from office before the completion of his term.
  - **A formal impeachment is not required for his removal. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
  - **He can be removed by a resolution of the Rajya Sabha passed by a majority of all the then members of the Rajya Sabha and agreed to by the Lok Sabha.** This means that this resolution should be passed in the Rajya Sabha by an effective majority and in the Lok Sabha by a simple majority. But, no such resolution can be moved unless at least 14 days advance notice has been given. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
  - **No ground has been mentioned in the Constitution for his removal. Hence statement 3 is correct.**

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Q 8.C

- Article 74 in The Constitution provides for a Council of Ministers to aid and advise President. Article 75 in The Constitution deals with the other provisions as to Ministers.
- The Prime Minister is appointed by the President, while the other ministers are appointed by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister. This means that the President can appoint only those persons as ministers who are recommended by the Prime minister.
- Usually, the members of Parliament, either Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha, are appointed as ministers**. A person who is not a member of either House of Parliament can also be appointed as a minister**. **But, within six months, he must** become a member **(either by election or by nomination) of either House of Parliament**, otherwise, he ceases to be a minister. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- **A minister who is a member of one House of Parliament has the right to speak** and to **take part in the proceedings of the other House also**, but he can vote only in the House of which he is a member. **Hence statement 2 is correct**.
- The salaries and allowances of ministers are determined by Parliament from time to time. A minister gets the salary and allowances that are payable to a member of Parliament. Additionally, he gets a sumptuary allowance (according to his rank), free accommodation, travelling allowance, medical facilities, etc.
    - Second Schedule Provisions relating to the emoluments, allowances, privileges and so on of:
        - The President of India
        - The Governors of States
        - The Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha
        - The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha
        - The Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly in the states
        - The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Legislative Council in the states
        - The Judges of the Supreme Court
        - The Judges of the High Courts
        - The Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.
        - **There is no mention of Council of Ministers in Second Schedule. Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 9.A

- **Pyrostria Laljii:** A 15-meter tall tree that belongs to the genus of the coffee family has recently been **discovered in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands** The new species Pyrostria Laljii, is also the first record of the genus Pyrostria in India. Trees belonging to these species **are usually found in Madagascar. Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**
- The tree is distinguished by a long stem with a whitish coating on the trunk and oblong-obovate leaves with a cuneate base and was first reported from **Wandoor forest in South Andaman.**
- Other places where trees could be located are: **Jarawa reserve forest, Chidia tapu forest.**
- Pyrostria Laljii: **Critically endangered** as per IUCN status.

Q 10.A

- Article 243M of the Constitution, while exempting **the Fifth Schedule areas from Part IX of the Constitution,** provides that Parliament may by law extend its provisions to the Scheduled Areas and no such law shall be deemed to be an amendment to the Constitution. On the basis of the report of the Bhuria Committee submitted in 1995, the Parliament enacted the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA) to extend Part IX of the Constitution with certain modifications and exceptions to the Schedule V areas. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- At present Scheduled V areas exist in 10 States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Telangana.
- The Ministry of Panchayati Raj is the nodal Ministry for implementation of the provisions of PESA in the States.
- The Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA), 1996 was enacted for ensuring self-governance through traditional Gram Sabhas for people living in the Scheduled Areas of India. Scheduled Areas are areas identified by the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India.
- **The objectives of the PESA Act are as follows**:
    - To extend the provisions of part IX of the constitution relating to the panchayats to the scheduled areas with certain modifications.
    - **To provide self-rule for the bulk of the tribal population. Hence statement 3 is correct.**
    - To have village governance with participatory democracy and to make the gram sabha a nucleus of all activities.

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- To evolve a suitable administrative framework consistent with traditional practices.
- **To safeguard and preserve the traditions and customs of tribal communities. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- To empower panchayats at the appropriate levels with specific powers conducive to tribal requirements.
- To prevent panchayats at the higher level from assuming the powers and authority of Panchayats at the lower level of the gram sabha.

Q 11.A

- A person cannot be a member of both Houses of Parliament at the same time. Thus, the Representation of People Act (1951) provides for the following:
  - If a person is elected to both the Houses of Parliament, she must intimate within 10 days in which House she desires to serve. In default of such intimation, her seat in Rajya Sabha becomes vacant. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - If a sitting member of one House is elected to other House, his/her seat in the first House becomes vacant. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - If a person is elected to two seats in a House, she should exercise her option for one, otherwise, both seats become vacant. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
  - If a person is elected to both the Parliament and the state legislature, her seat in Parliament becomes vacant if she does not resign her seat in the state legislature within 14 days.

Q 12.C

- **Stages in Enactment of budget :** The budget goes through the following six stages in the Parliament:
  - Presentation of budget.
  - General discussion.
  - Scrutiny by departmental committees.
  - Voting on demands for grants.
  - Passing of appropriation bill.
  - Passing of finance bill.
  - **Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**
- **Presentation of Budget :** Conventionally, the budget is presented to the Lok Sabha by the finance minister on the last working day of February. Since 2017,the presentation of the budget has been advanced to 1st of February.
- The Budget can also be presented to the House in two or more parts and when such presentation takes place, each part shall be dealt with as if it were the budget. Further, there shall be no discussion of the budget on the day on which it is presented to the house.
- **General Discussion :**The general discussion on budget begins a few days after its presentation. It takes place in both the Houses of Parliament and lasts usually for three to four days.
- **Scrutiny by Departmental Committees :** After the general discussion on the budget is over, the Houses are adjourned for about three to four weeks. During this gap period, the 24 departmental standing committees of Parliament examine and discuss in detail the demands for grants of the concerned ministers and prepare reports on them. These reports are submitted to both the Houses of Parliament for consideration.
- **Voting on Demands for Grants :I**n the light of the reports of the departmental standing committees, the Lok Sabha takes up voting of demands for grants. The demands are presented ministrywise. A demand becomes a grant after it has been duly voted.
- **Passing of Appropriation Bill :**The Constitution states that 'no money shall be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund of India except under appropriation made by law'. Accordingly, an appropriation bill is introduced to provide for the appropriation, out of the Consolidated Fund of India.
- **Passing of Finance Bill :**The Finance Bill is introduced to give effect to the financial proposals of the Government of India for the following year. It is subjected to all the conditions applicable to a Money Bill. Unlike the Appropriation Bill, the amendments (seeking to reject or reduce a tax) can be moved in the case of finance bill.
- According to the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act of 1931, the Finance Bill must be enacted (i.e., passed by the Parliament and assented to by the president) within 75 days. The Finance Act legalises the income side of the budget and completes the process of the enactment of the budget.

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Q 13.C

- The Prime Minister Office (PMO) is a non-constitutional, non-statutory body that provides secretarial assistance to the Prime Minister of India in the efficient discharge of his role, functions, and responsibilities. it was given the status of a department under the Government of India Allocation of Business Rules, 1961 and it is headed by the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister.
- **Various funds that are managed by the PMO are**
  - **PM National Relief Fund (PMNRF):** It was established in 1948 with public contributions to assist displaced persons from Pakistan. Assistance from PMNRF is utilized primarily to render immediate relief to families of those killed in natural calamities like floods, cyclones and earthquakes, the victims of major accidents and riots etc.
  - **National Defence Fund:** It was set up for the welfare of the Armed Forces (including Para Military Forces) and their dependents. It is entirely dependent on voluntary contributions and take charge of voluntary donations in cash and kind received for promotion of the national defence effort and to decide on their utilisation. The Fund is administered by an Executive Committee, with PM as Chairperson, and Defence, Finance and Home Ministers as Members.
  - **Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations Fund (PM CARES Fund):** It has been set by keeping in mind the need for having a dedicated national fund with the primary objective of dealing with any kind of emergency or distress situation, like posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, and to provide relief to the affected, a public charitable trust. Prime Minister is the ex-officio Chairman of the PM CARES Fund and Minister of Defence, Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Finance, Government of India are ex-officio Trustees of the Fund.
- **National Investment Fund (NIF)** was established in 2005 into which the proceeds from disinvestment of Central Public Sector Enterprises were to be channelized. It is **managed by the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management.** 75% of the annual income of the NIF was to be used for financing selected social sector schemes and the remaining 25% was to be used to meet the capital investment requirements of profitable and revivable PSUs.
- **National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF)** was constituted under the Disaster Management (DM) Act, 2005 for meeting the expenses for emergency response, relief and rehabilitation due to any threatening disaster situation or disaster. It is managed by the central government and comes under **the purview of the Ministry of Home Affairs.**
- **Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 14.C

- If any individual or authority violates or disregards any of the privileges, powers and immunities of the House or members or committees thereof, he may be punished for "breach of privilege" or "contempt of the House". The House has the power to determine as to what constitutes breach of privilege and contempt. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The Parliament can impeach the President for violation of the Constitution. It can recommend the removal of judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts, Chief Election Commissioner, Comptroller and Auditor General to the President. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- In I.R. Coelho vs State of Tamil Nadu case, a three-judge bench of Supreme Court has unanimously pronounced upon the constitutional validity of the Ninth-Schedule laws that, in the post-1973 era, they are open to attack for causing the infraction which affects the basic structure of the Constitution. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 15.B

- Quorum refers to the minimum number of members required to be present at a sitting of the House or a Committee for valid transaction of its business.
- **Statement 1 is not correct:** Constitution of India under Article 100 (3) mentioned that at least 10% of the total number of members of the House must be present to constitute the quorum to constitute a meeting of either House of Parliament. It is a constitutional provision and not mentioned in the rules of procedures of both houses.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Parliament can change the quorum by amending it by simple majority. It is outside the purview of Article 368 of the Indian Constitution.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It also includes the presiding officer of the house. It means that in Lok Sabha 55 members should be present and in Rajya Sabha 25 members should be present including the Presiding officer.

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Q 16.B

- **The National Investigation Agency (NIA)** is empowered to deal with terror-related crimes across states all over India. This Counter terrorist task force came into existence with the enactment of the **National Investigation Agency Act 2008 (NIA act)** after the deadly 26/11 terror attack in Mumbai. The government realized the need for a specific body to deal with terror-related activities in India, thereby establishing the NIA. The Headquarters of NIA is in New Delhi and branches are spread in different states and cities including Hyderabad, Guwahati, Kochi, Lucknow, Mumbai, Kolkata, Raipur, and Jammu.
- **Statement 1 is not correct:** NIA is an Independent organization that deals with terrorist activities. It is under the administrative jurisdiction of the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** According to The National Investigation Agency (Amendment) Act, 2019 officers of the NIA will have the power to investigate scheduled offences committed outside India provided the case has been registered for the offences as contained in the schedule to the National Investigation Act 2008 and subject to international treaties and domestic laws of other countries.
- NIA can investigate offences related to various laws such as the Indian Penal code, Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), The Atomic Energy Act, 1962, Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC), etc.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** A State Government may request the Central Government to hand over the investigation of a case to the NIA, provided there is reasonable ground to suggest the commission of a scheduled offence under the NIA Act in the said crime. On receipt of a report from the State Government, the Central Government shall within fifteen days determine on the basis of the information made available by the State Government it is a fit case to be investigated by the Agency.

Q 17.B

- **The Constitution provides for the creation and abolition of legislative councils in states.** Accordingly, the parliament can abolish or create, if the concerned state passes a resolution. Under Article 169 of the Indian constitution, Parliament may create or abolish the Council in a state if the Legislative Assembly of that state passes a resolution to that effect by a special majority. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The resolution for the creation of legislative council must be passed by a special majority, i.e., a majority of total membership of assembly and a majority of not less than two- thirds of the assembly present and voting. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 18.B

- The Rules committee considers the matters of procedure and conduct of business in the House and recommends necessary amendments or additions to the rules of the House.
- The Lok Sabha committee consists of 15 members including Speaker as the ex-officio chairman. In Rajya Sabha, it consists of 16 members including the Chairman as its ex-officio chairman. **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**
- General Purpose Committee considers and advises on general matters that are not covered by any other committee. This committee has Speaker {in Lok Sabha) and Chairman / Vice-President {In Rajya Sabha} as its chairman.
- Business Advisory Committee regulate the programme and time table of concerned house. Committee on Government Assurances examines the assurances, promises and undertakings given by the ministers on the floor of that house. The Lok Sabha Committee on Assurances has 15 members and Rajya Sabha Committee on Assurances has 10 members.

Q 19.D

- The President can be removed from office by a process of impeachment for 'violation of the Constitution. (Article 61 of Indian Constitution). However, the **Constitution does not define the meaning of the phrase 'violation of the Constitution.**
- **The impeachment charges can be initiated by either House of Parliament.** These charges should be signed by one-fourth of members of the House (that framed the charges), and a 14 days' notice should be given to the President.
- After the impeachment resolution is passed by a **majority of two-thirds of the total membership of that House,** it is sent to the other House, which should investigate the charges.
- The President has the right to appear and to be represented in such an investigation.
- **If the other House also sustains the charges and passes the impeachment resolution by a majority of two-thirds of the total membership, then the President stands removed from his office from the date on which the resolution is so passed. Hence statement (d) is not correct.**
- Impeachment is a quasi-judicial procedure in Parliament. In this context, two things should be noted:

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- the **nominated members of either House of Parliament can participate in the impeachment of the President though they do not participate in his election;**
- the elected members of the legislative assemblies of states and the Union Territories of Delhi and Puducherry do not participate in the impeachment of the President though they participate in his election.

Q 20.A

- **Recently, the Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar has developed a device 'Jivan Vayu' which can be used as a substitute for a CPAP machine.** However, this is **the Nation's first such device that functions even without electricity and is adapted to both kinds of oxygen generation units like O2 cylinders and oxygen pipelines in hospitals.** These provisions are not available in otherwise existing CPAP machines. Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) is a treatment method for patients having breathing problems during sleep called sleep apnea.
- **Jivan Vayu' can deliver high flow oxygen (20–60 LPM) while maintaining a continuous positive pressure of up to 20 cm H2O.** The device is designed to maintain a FiO2 of above 40% with a PEEP (positive end-expiratory pressure) of 5-20 cm H2O. **It has an inbuilt viral filter at the air entrainment end which has a viral efficacy of 99.99%.** The viral filter ensures that the air does not bring in any pathogens from the environment. The device has been manufactured using 3D printing and has also been tested mechanically.
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 21.B

- **Recently, Kandla SEZ (KASEZ) was awarded IGBC Platinum Rating for its 'Green master planning, policy initiatives and implementation of green infrastructure' and thus became the first Green SEZ in India.**
- **The Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) is a part of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and was formed in the year 2001.**
  - **The Confederation of Indian Industry is a non-governmental trade association and advocacy group based in New Delhi. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- IGBC's vision is to enable a sustainable built environment for all and facilitate India to be one of the global leaders in the sustainable built environment by 2025.
- The council offers a wide array of services which include developing new green building rating programmes, certification services and green building training programmes. The council also organizes Green Building Congress, its annual flagship event on green buildings.
- The council is committee-based, member-driven and consensus-focused. All the stakeholders of the construction industry comprising of architects, developers, product manufacturers, corporate, Government, academia and nodal agencies participate in the council activities through local chapters.
- The council also closely works with several State Governments, Central Government, World Green Building Council, bilateral multi-lateral agencies in promoting green building concepts in the country.
- **The IGBC Green SEZ Rating System (Pilot version) is an extension of the Green SEZ guidelines. The Indian Green Building Council along with the Ministry of Commerce & Industry has prepared the Green SEZ guidelines.**
- **The World Green Building Council is a non-profit organization and global network of national Green Building Councils. It has member councils in over 70 countries worldwide.**
  - **There are three membership levels for Green Building Councils in World Green Building Council**
    - **Established** – a fully developed and operational organization that is running impactful green building programmes of work – delivering change on a national level, and embracing best practice governance, accountability, and transparency.
    - **Emerging** – an organization open to membership and which has a strong foundation, such as an elected board and staff to manage day-to-day operations. It is expected to progress to Established status within 24 months.
    - **Prospective** – an organization at the early stages of development but which has put in place a comprehensive strategy on how it will operate and advance green building in its country. It is expected to progress to Emerging status within 24 months.
- **IGBC is an established member of the World Green Building Council. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

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Q 22.C

- **The Assam government has notified Dehing Patkai as the 7th National Park (NP) of the state.**
- Under the **Wildlife Protection Act 1972,** both the State (section 35) and Central (section 38) government can declare an area as National Park.
- **The Dehing Patkai NP forms the "last remaining stretches" of the Assam Valley tropical wet evergreen forests.**
- **The Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary, also known as the Jeypore Rainforest is a part of Dehing Patkai Elephant Reserve. It is referred as 'The Amazon of East'.**
  - It is located in the districts of Dibrugarh and Tinsukia.
  - **It comprises of Jeypore, Upper Dehing and Dirok. Dehing is the name of the river that flows through this forest and Patkai is the hill at the foot of which the sanctuary lies.**
  - **The park is home to important species like Tiger, Chinese pangolin, Slow loris, Clouded leopard etc.**
  - **It also has the highest concentration of the rare endangered White Winged Wood Duck.**
  - Earlier, the State government has also notified **Raimona Reserve Forest (422-sq. km) as the 6th National Park in western Assam's Kokrajhar district.**
  - **Assam has five older National Parks- Kaziranga, Manas, Nameri, Orang and Dibru-Saikhowa. Kaziranga and Manas are UNESCO World Heritage Sites. They are also tiger reserves along with Nameri and Orang.**
  - **Assam (7) now has the third most National Parks after Madhya Pradesh (12) and Andaman and Nicobar Islands (9).**
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 23.D

- The governor is neither directly elected by the people nor indirectly elected by a specially constituted electoral college as is the case with the president.
- **Article 153** says 'there shall be a Governor for each State'. **But the 7th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1956 facilitated the appointment of the same person as a governor for two or more states.**
- **Article 156: A governor holds office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters his office. However, this term of five years is subject to the pleasure of the President.** Further, he can resign at any time by addressing a resignation letter to the President.
- The Constitution lays down only two qualifications for the appointment of a person as a governor. These are:
  - He should be a citizen of India.
  - He should have completed the age of 35 years.
- The minimum age requirement for a person to be chosen as a member of the state legislature is 25 years.
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 24.C

- A person to be eligible for election as President should fulfill the following qualifications:
  - He should be a citizen of India.
  - He should have completed 35 years of age.
  - **He should be qualified for election as a member of the Lok Sabha.**
  - He should not hold any office of profit under the Union government or any state government or any local authority or any other public authority.
- A sitting President or Vice-President of the Union, the Governor of any state, and a minister of the Union or any state is not deemed to hold any office of profit and hence qualified as a presidential candidate.
- The President's election is held in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote and the voting is by secret ballot. This system ensures that the successful candidate is returned by the absolute majority of votes.
- The oath of office to the President is administered by the **Chief Justice of India** and in his absence, **the seniormost judge of the Supreme Court** is available.
  - Any other person acting as President or discharging the functions of the President also undertakes a similar oath or affirmation.
- The President can hold office beyond his term of five years until his successor assumes charge. **He is also eligible for re-election to that office**. He may be elected for any number of terms.
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**

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Q 25.A

- The Covid-19 pandemic has upended giving trends across the world as per **Charities Aid Foundation's (CAF) World Giving Index (WGI) 2021.** Several Western economies have slipped down the Index due to Covid-related lockdowns. Despite the state-level restrictions India ranked 14th which Is several notches up from its 10-year average rank of 82 --published in a special 10-year anniversary edition in 2019.
- **According to WGI 2021, India has consistently been working its way up from 2017, when it was ranked 124.** In the years 2018 and 2019, India ranked 51 and 19 respectively. **This year, Indonesia has topped the index, followed by Kenya and Nigeria. Ranked at 14, India is one of the fastest climbers.**
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 26.A

- Recently the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) under the Ministry of Personnel directed that West Bengal Chief Secretary report to its office after he with West Bengal Chief Minister allegedly skipped a review meeting on Cyclone Yaas with Prime Minister. The post of Chief Secretary is the senior-most position in the civil services (cadre post for the Indian Administrative Service) of the states and union territories of India.
- The appointment of the Chief Secretary is an executive action of the Chief Minister, he is 'chosen' by the Chief Minister and this executive action is taken in the name of the Governor of the State.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** As the post of the Chief Secretary is the senior-most position in civil services of the state, he acts as the chief advisor to the Chief Minister in all matters of the cabinet.
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** There is no fixed tenure for this post as the office of the Chief Secretary has been excluded from the operation of the tenure system.

Q 27.A

- Part XVIII of the constitution consists of Articles 352 to 360 dealing with the Emergency Provisions. The Emergency declared in 1975 (internal emergency) by Indira Gandhi Government proved to be the most controversial.
- The **Shah commission** did not justify the declaration of the Emergency. Hence, the 44th Amendment Act was enacted in 1978 to introduce a number of safeguards against the misuse of Emergency provisions.
- Under Article 352, the President can declare a national emergency when the security of India or a part of it is threatened by war or external aggression or armed rebellion.
- When a national emergency is declared on the ground of 'war' or 'external aggression', it is known as 'External Emergency'. On the other hand, when it is declared on the ground of 'armed rebellion', it is known as 'Internal Emergency'.
- Following changes were made in the National Emergency provisions in Part XVIII:
  - **Armed Rebellion** in place of Internal Disturbance
  - **Written recommendation** from Cabinet for National Emergency
  - **Judicial Review** of Emergency
  - **Period of one month** for Parliamentary approval for National Emergency
  - **Periodical Approval** for National Emergency by both houses of Parliament. If approved by both the Houses of Parliament, the emergency continues for six months, and can be extended to an indefinite period with an approval of the Parliament for every six months.
  - **Lok Sabha** can revoke National Emergency
  - Safeguards for Fundamental Rights in case of National Emergency
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 28.C

- The Union Government, constituted a Commission in 1988 under the Chairmanship of Justice R.S. Sarkaria to review the working of the existing arrangements between the Union and the States. One of the important recommendations of Sarkaria Commission was for establishing a permanent Inter-State Council as an independent national forum for consultation with a mandate well defined in accordance with Article 263 of the Constitution of India. Pursuant to the recommendation, The Inter-State-Council was set up under Article 263 of the Constitution of India vide Presidential Order dated 28.5.1990. The present composition of the Council is as follows:
  - Prime Minister Chairman
  - Chief Ministers of all States Members
  - Chief Ministers of Union Territories having a Legislative Assembly and

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- Administrators of UTs not having a Legislative Assembly and Governors of States under President's Rule (Governor's Rule in the case of J&K)
- Members: Six Ministers of Cabinet rank in the Union Council of Ministers to be nominated by the Prime Minister Members
- Four Ministers of Cabinet rank as Permanent invitees Members

- **Article 263** provides for the establishment of an Inter-State Council to effect coordination between the states and between Centre and states.
- The **President** can establish such a council if at any time it appears to him that the public interest would be served by its establishment.
- The council is a **recommendatory body** on issues relating to inter-state, Centre–state and Centre–union territories relations.
- The Council **may meet at least** thrice in a year. Its meetings are held in camera and all questions are decided by consensus.
- There is also a **Standing Committee** of the Council. It was set up in **1996** for continuous consultation and processing of matters for the consideration of the Council.
- The Council is assisted by a secretariat called the Inter-State Council Secretariat. This secretariat was set-up in **1991** and is headed by a secretary to the Government of India.

Q 29.C

- Policy cut motion: It represents the disapproval of the policy underlying the demand. It states that the amount of the demand be reduced to Re.1/-. The members can also advocate an alternative policy. If passed it amounts to censure of the government. **Hence pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- Economy cut motion: It represents the economy that can be affected in the proposed expenditure. It states that the amount of the demand b reduced by specified (Rs.X/-) amount. **Hence pair 2 is correctly matched.**
- Token cut motion: It raises a specific grievance that is within the sphere of responsibility of the Government of India. It states that the amount of the demand be reduced by Rs.100/-. **Hence pair 3 is correctly matched.**

Q 30.A

- The Constitution speaks only of Ministers. **It does not indicate any** classification or categories of Ministers into Cabinet Ministers, Ministers of State, Deputy Ministers, etc. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **Article 75 of the Indian Constitution clearly states** that the total number of ministers, **including** the Prime Minister, in the Council of Ministers shall not exceed 15% of the total strength **of the Lok Sabha**. This provision was added by the 91st Amendment Act of 2003. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Government of India **(Allocation of Business) Rules**, 1961 are made by the President of India under **Article 77 of the Constitution** for the allocation of business of the Government of India.
  - The Ministries/Departments of the Government are created by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister under these Rules.
  - The business of the Government are transacted in the Ministries/Departments, Secretariats and offices (referred to as 'Department') as per the distribution of subjects specified in these Rules. Each of the Ministries is assigned to a Minister by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister.
  - Each department is generally under the charge of a Secretary to assist the Minister on policy matters and general administration.
- **The council of ministers consists of three categories of ministers, namely, cabinet ministers, ministers of state, and deputy ministers.** The difference between them lies in their respective ranks, emoluments, and political importance. At the top of all these ministers stands the Prime Minister—the supreme governing authority of the country.
  - **The cabinet ministers head the important ministries** of the Central government like home, defence, finance, external affairs and so forth.
  - **The ministers of state** can either be given independent charge of ministries/departments or can be attached to cabinet ministers. In case of attachment, they may either be given the charge of departments of the ministries headed by the cabinet ministers or allotted specific items of work related to the ministries headed by cabinet ministers.
  - Next in rank are the **deputy ministers**. They are not given independent charge of ministries/departments. They are attached to the cabinet ministers or ministers of state and assist them in their administrative, political, and parliamentary duties. They are not members of the cabinet and do not attend cabinet meetings.

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Q 31.C

- NASA has selected **two missions to the planet Venus, Earth's nearest neighbor. The missions called DAVINCI+ and VERITAS** have been selected based on their potential for scientific value and the feasibility of their development plans. NASA is expected to allot $500 million to each of these missions that will launch between 2028-2030. **Hence statement 1 is correct**
- **Both missions are part of the space agency's Discovery Program**, which began in 1992 to give scientists the chance to launch some missions that use fewer resources and have shorter developmental times. The two selections are a part of the ninth Discovery Program and were made from proposals submitted in 2019. **Hence statement 2 is correct**
- DAVINCI+ is short for 'Deep Atmosphere Venus Investigation of Noble gases, Chemistry, and Imaging' and is the first US-led mission to the planet's atmosphere since 1978. It will try to understand Venus' composition to see how the planet formed and evolved. This mission also consists of a descent sphere that will pass through the planet's thick atmosphere and make observations and take measurements of noble gases and other elements.
- The second mission called VERITAS is short for 'Venus Emissivity, Radio Science, InSAR, Topography, and Spectroscopy' and will map the planet's surface to determine its geologic history and understand the reasons why it developed so differently from Earth.

Q 32.D

- The veto power enjoyed by the executive in modern states can be classified into the following four types:
  - **Absolute veto**, that is, withholding of assent to the bill passed by the legislature.
  - **Qualified veto**, which can be overridden by the legislature with a higher majority.
  - **Suspensive veto**, which can be overridden by the legislature with an ordinary majority.
  - **Pocket veto**, that is, taking no action on the bill passed by the legislature.
- Of the above four, the President of India is vested with three—absolute veto, suspensive veto, and pocket veto. There is **no qualified veto** in the case of the Indian President. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- A bill passed by the Parliament can become an act only if it receives the assent of the President. When such a bill is presented to the President for his assent, he has three alternatives (under Article 111 of the Constitution):
  - He may give his assent to the bill, or
  - He may withhold his assent to the bill, or
  - He may return the bill (if it is not a Money Bill) for reconsideration of the Parliament. However, if the bill is passed again by the Parliament with or without amendments and again presented to the President, the President must give his assent to the bill.
  - **The President exercises Suspensive Veto** when he returns a bill for reconsideration of the Parliament. However, if the bill is passed again by the Parliament with or without amendments and again presented to the President, it is obligatory for the President to give his assent to the bill.
    - The President does not possess this veto in the **case of money bills**. The President can either give his assent to a money bill or withhold his assent to a money bill but cannot return it for the reconsideration of the Parliament. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
  - The President has no veto power in respect of a constitutional amendment bill. **The 24th Constitutional Amendment Act of** 1971 made it obligatory for the President to give his assent to a constitutional amendment bill. Hence **statement 3 is correct.**

Q 33.D

- A session of Parliament consists of many meetings. Each meeting of a day consists of two sittings, that is, a morning sitting from 11 am to 1 pm and post-lunch sitting from 2 pm to 6 pm. A sitting of Parliament can be terminated by adjournment or adjournment sine die or prorogation or dissolution (in the case of the Lok Sabha).
- **Adjournment**: Termination of the sitting of the House which meets again at the time appointed for the next sitting. It suspends the work in a sitting for a specified time, which may be hours, days or weeks.
- **Adjournment sine die**-Termination of a sitting of the House without any definite date being fixed for the next sitting. The power of adjournment as well as adjournment sine die lies with the presiding officer of the House.
- **Prorogation**-The termination of a session by an order made by the President under the Constitution. The presiding officer (Speaker or Chairman) declares the House adjourned sine die, when the business of a session is completed. Within the next few days, the President issues a notification for prorogation of the session. However, the President can also prorogue the House while in session.
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

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Q 34.A

- Geographical Indication (GI) tag is proof of where the product is born or produced. This product can be natural, agricultural, or manufactured. The use of GI, as an indication of the product's origin, acts as a certification that the product has exclusive qualities, is made/produced according to traditional methods, or has a good reputation due to its geographical origin.
- **Mango:** Mango is rightly postulated as the 'king of fruit' for its distinctive taste and manifold health benefits. India houses about 1500 varieties of mango, each unique in its taste, color, and shape.
- **GI tagged varieties of Mango: Khirsapati, Lakshmanbhog from West Bengal, and Zardalu from Bihar**, Suvarnarekha, and Banganapalli mango varieties of Andhra Pradesh, Malihabadi Dashehari of Uttar Pradesh and **Alphonso Mango of Maharastra, etc.**
- Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture has initiated the process forobtaining Geographical Indication tag for Gaurjit, Banarsi Langrha, **Chausa** and Rataul mango varieties.
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 35.D

- 73rd Constitution Amendment Act 1992 provides for a five-year term of office to the panchayat at every level. However, it can be dissolved before the completion of its term.
- Article 243E provides for the duration of Panchayats.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** The fresh elections to constitute a panchayat shall be completed before the expiry of its duration of five years or in case of dissolution the expiry of a period of six months from the date of its dissolution.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** After the premature dissolution of the panchayat, the reconstituted panchayat does not enjoy a full period of 5years. It shall continue only for the remainder period for which dissolved Panchayat would have continued had it not been so dissolved.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It is not necessary to hold elections where the remaining period **is less than 6 months (and not five years)** for constituting a new panchayat for such period.

Q 36.A

- Article 74 deals with the status of the council of ministers while Article 75 deals with the appointment, tenure, responsibility, qualification, oath and salaries and allowances of the ministers.
  - Minister can be a minister of state, deputy minister, cabinet minister, Ministers of State (Independent Charge)
- Article 74 provides for a council of ministers with the Prime Minister at the head to aid and advise the President in the exercise of his functions.
- The Prime Minister is appointed by the President, while the other ministers are appointed by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister. This means that the President can appoint only those persons as ministers who are recommended by the Prime minister.
- **Oath**
  - **All the ministers are administered the oaths of office and secrecy by the President. Hence option 1 is correct**.
  - In his oath of office, the minister swears:
    - to bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India,
    - to uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India
    - to faithfully and conscientiously discharge the duties of his office
    - to do right to all manner of people in accordance with the Constitution and the law, without fear or favour, affection or ill will.
- **Accountability and Responsibility**
  - **Article 75 states that the council of ministers is collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha. This means that all the ministers own joint responsibility to the Lok Sabha for all their acts of ommission and commission.** When the Lok Sabha passes a no-confidence motion against the council of ministers, all the ministers have to resign including those ministers who are from the Rajya Sabha. **The principle of collective responsibility also means that the Cabinet decisions bind all cabinet ministers (and other ministers) even if they differed in the cabinet meeting. Hence option 3 is correct.**
- **Individual responsibility and removal**
  - Article 75 states that the ministers hold office during the pleasure of the president, which means that the President can remove a minister even at a time when the council of ministers enjoys the confidence of the Lok Sabha. However, the President removes a minister only on the advice of the Prime Minister. In case of a difference of opinion or dissatisfaction with the performance of a

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minister, the **Prime Minister can ask him to resign** or advice the President to dismiss him. By exercising this power, the Prime Minister can ensure the realisation of the rule of collective responsibility. **Hence option 2 is correct.**

Q 37.D

- **Recent Context:** After a brief impasse between UAE and Saudi Arabia, the OPEC+ nations finally reached an agreement over the oil production level for their member nations.
  - **OPEC+ has decided to increase overall production by 4,00,000 barrels per day every month till the remaining portion of the group's 10 million barrel per day production cut announced in April 2020 is completely phased out.**
- **About Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC):**
  - **It is a permanent, intergovernmental Organization, created at the Baghdad Conference on September 10–14, 1960, by Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Venezuela.** Presently it has **13 members:**
    - Algeria
    - Angola
    - **Congo**
    - Equatorial Guinea
    - Gabon
    - **Iran**
    - Iraq
    - Kuwait
    - Libya
    - Nigeria
    - Saudi Arabia
    - United Arab Emirates
    - **Venezuela**
- OPEC's objective is to coordinate and unify petroleum policies among Member Countries, in order to secure fair and stable prices for petroleum producers; an efficient, economic, and regular supply of petroleum to consuming nations; and a fair return on capital to those investing in the industry.
- OPEC+ is a group of 24 oil-producing nations, made up of the 14 members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), and 10 other non-OPEC members. OPEC+ members recently agreed to boost production by 400,000 barrels a day through the end of September 2022.
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 38.C

- Though the Panchayati Raj Institutions have been in existence for a long time, to realize the objective of Article 40 of the Constitution which enshrines one of the Directive Principles of State Policy lays down that the State shall take steps to organize village Panchayat. 73rd Constitutional Amendment act, 1992 aims to achieve this objective and to realize the potential for grass root democracy adds new part IX relating to Panchayats in the Constitution (Article 243 to 243 O) constitution of Panchayats at the village and other level or levels, among many other functions.
- **As per Article 243D, the state shall provide for the offices of chairperson in a panchayat at a village or any other level shall be reserved for the members of SC and ST community.**
- **Statement 2 is correct: Article 243D(1)** provides for the reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled tribes (STs) at all three levels in proportion to the total population in the panchayat area.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** Further **Article 243D(2)** states that not less than one-third of the total number of seats reserved under clause (1) shall be reserved for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes, as the case may be.
- **Article 243D(3)** provides that **not less than one-third (including the number of seats reserved for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes) of the total number of seats to be filled by direct election** in every Panchayat shall be reserved for women and such seats may be allotted by rotation to different constituencies in a Panchayat.
- **As per Article 243D,** the state shall provide for the offices of chairperson in a panchayat at a village or any other level shall be reserved for the members of SC and ST community.

Q 39.D

- **Article 72** of the Constitution empowers the President to grant pardons to persons who have been tried and convicted of any offense in all cases where the:

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  - Punishment or sentence is for an offence against a Union Law;
  - Punishment or sentence is by a court-martial (military court); and
  - Sentence is a sentence of death.
- The pardoning power of the President is independent of the Judiciary, it is executive power. But, **the President while exercising this power, does not sit as a court of appeal. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- The power of the President to grant remission of sentences is absolute and unfettered.
- The Supreme Court examined the pardoning power of the President under different cases and laid down the following principles:
  - The petitioner for mercy has no right to an oral hearing by the President.
  - The President can examine the evidence afresh and take a view different from the view taken by the court.
  - **The power is to be exercised by the President on the advice of the union cabinet. Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
  - The President is not bound to give reasons for his order.
  - The President can afford relief not only from a sentence that he regards as unduly harsh but also from an evident mistake.
  - The exercise of power by the President is not subject to judicial review except where the presidential decision is arbitrary, irrational, mala fide, or discriminatory.
  - Where the earlier petition for mercy has been rejected by the President, the stay cannot be obtained by filing another petition.

Q 40.D

- Under article 80 of the Constitution, the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) is composed of not more than 250 members, of whom 12 are nominated by the President of India. This right of nomination has been bestowed upon the President according to the Fourth Schedule (Articles 4(1) and 80(2)) of the Constitution of India.
- The President nominates 12 members to the Rajya Sabha from people who have special knowledge or practical experience in
  - **art,**
  - **literature,**
  - **science, and**
  - **social service**
- The rationale behind this principle of nomination is to provide eminent persons a place in Rajya Sabha without going through the rigors of electoral politics.
- By nominating them to Rajya Sabha, the State not only recognises their merit and confers honour on them, but also enables them to enrich the debates by their expertise and knowledge that they have in different areas.
- **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 41.C

- **Recent context :The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has slashed India's growth forecast for 2021-22 sharply in its latest World Economic Outlook (WEO) report. The international body has sharply revised India's growth rate to 9.5 per cent from 12.5 per cent.**
- **World Economic Outlook is a survey by the IMF staff usually published twice a year.** It presents IMF staff economists' analyses of global economic developments during the near and medium term.
- The report encapsulates the state of the global economy and highlights risks and uncertainty that could threaten growth.
- This report is the main instrument of disseminating the findings and analysis of IMF's global surveillance activities to the world.
- Global Financial Stability Report (GFSR), and Fiscal Monitor (FM) are the other reports released by IMF.
- The IMF was conceived in July 1944 at the United Nations Bretton Woods Conference in New Hampshire, United States. The 44 countries in attendance sought to build a framework for international economic cooperation and avoid repeating the competitive currency devaluations that contributed to the Great Depression of the 1930s.
- The IMF's primary mission is to ensure the stability of the international monetary system—the system of exchange rates and international payments that enables countries and their citizens to transact with each other.
- IMF is headquartered in Washington, D.C.
- **Hence, both statements are correct.**

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Q 42.A

- The legislative assembly consists of representatives directly elected by the people on the basis of universal adult franchise. Its maximum strength is fixed at 500 and minimum strength at 60. It means that its strength varies from 60 to 500 depending on the population size of the state. **However, in case of Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Goa, the minimum number is fixed at 30 and in case of Mizoram, and Nagaland it is 40 and 46 respectively. Hence, the statement 1 is not correct.**
- The Governor can nominate **one member** from the Anglo- Indian community. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Constitution provided for the reservation of seats for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in the assembly of each state on the basis of population. But does not provide same for the women. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 43.C

- The Constitution under **Article 261** contains the "Full Faith and Credit" clause which lays down the following:
- Full faith and credit is to be given throughout the territory of India to public acts, records and judicial proceedings of the Centre and every state.
    - The expression 'public acts' includes **both legislative and executive acts** of the government. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- The manner in which and the conditions under which such acts, records and proceedings are to be proved and their effect determined would be as provided by the laws of Parliament.
- Final judgements and orders of **civil courts** in any part of India are capable of execution anywhere within India. The rule applies only to civil judgements and not to criminal judgements. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **Article 261 does not** require the courts of a state to enforce the penal laws of another state. **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 44.C

- **Articles 245 to 255 in Part XI of the Indian Constitution** deal with the legislative relations between the Centre and the states. Besides these, there are some other articles dealing with the same subject.
- **The Parliament alone** can make 'extra-territorial legislation'. Thus, the laws of the Parliament are also applicable to the Indian citizens and their property in any part of the world. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- The power to make laws with respect to residuary subjects in the Indian Constitution (i.e., the matters which are not enumerated in any of the three lists) is vested in the **Parliament. Hence statement 2 is correct.**

Q 45.B

- When the Lok Sabha is dissolved, all business including bills, motions, resolutions, notices, petitions and so on pending before it or its committees lapse. They (to be pursued further) must be reintroduced in the newly-constituted Lok Sabha. However, some pending bills and all pending assurances that are to be examined by the Committee on Government Assurances do not lapse on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha.
- The position with respect to lapsing of bills is as follows:
    - A bill pending in the Lok Sabha lapses (whether originating in the Lok Sabha or transmitted to it by the Rajya Sabha).
    - **A bill passed by the Lok Sabha but pending in the Rajya Sabha lapses.**
    - A bill not passed by the two Houses due to disagreement and if the President has notified a joint sitting before the dissolution of the Lok Sabha, does not lapse.
    - **A bill pending in the Rajya Sabha but not passed by the Lok Sabha does not lapse.**
    - A bill passed by both Houses but pending assent of the President does not lapse.
    - **A bill passed by both Houses but returned by the President for reconsideration of Houses does not lapse.**
- **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 46.A

- **Recently Madras High Court in a case observed that all five zonal Benches of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) are equally powerful and their orders are applicable across India.** The Madras High Court disapproved a 2017 Central notification, which terms the north zone Bench in Delhi as the Principal Bench.
- The court also held that there is no mention of any principal bench in the NGT Act, 2010.

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- The NGT was established on October 18, 2010, under the National Green Tribunal Act 2010, passed by the Central Government.
- NGT was envisioned as a specialized forum for effective and speedy disposal of cases pertaining to environment protection, conservation of forests and for seeking compensation for damages caused to people or property due to violation of environmental laws or conditions specified while granting permissions.
- Following the enactment of the NGT Act, the North Bench of the NGT has been established in the National Capital – **New Delhi,** with regional benches in
  - **Pune (Western Zone Bench)**
  - **Bhopal (Central Zone Bench)**
  - **Chennai (Southern Bench)**
  - **Kolkata (Eastern Bench).**
- Each Bench has a specified geographical jurisdiction covering several States in a region. There is also a mechanism for circuit benches. For example, the Southern Zone bench, which is based in Chennai, can decide to have sittings in other places like Bangalore or Hyderabad.
- The Chairperson of the NGT is a retired Judge of the Supreme Court. Other Judicial members are retired Judges of High Courts. Each bench of the NGT will comprise at least one Judicial Member and one Expert Member. Expert members should have a professional qualification and a minimum of 15 years of experience in the field of environment/forest conservation and related subjects.
- The NGT has the power to hear all civil cases relating to environmental issues and questions that are linked to the implementation of laws listed in Schedule I of the NGT Act. These include the following:
  - The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
  - The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977
  - The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;
  - The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981
  - The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986
  - The Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991
  - The Biological Diversity Act, 2002
- The NGT is not bound by the procedure laid down under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, but shall be guided by principles of natural justice. Further, NGT is also not bound by the rules of evidence as enshrined in the Indian Evidence Act, 1872. Thus, it will be relatively easier (as opposed to approaching a court) for conservation groups to present facts and issues before the NGT, including pointing out technical flaws in a project, or proposing alternatives that could minimize environmental damage but which have not been considered.
- **Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 47.B

- For the administration of urban areas, different types of urban local bodies are created in India such as Municipal corporations, Municipalities, Notified Area Committee, Town Area Committee, Cantonment Board, etc. Municipal Corporations are created for the administration of big cities having large populations such as Delhi, Hyderabad, Bangalore, and others. **The Council is the deliberative and legislative wing of the corporation that is headed by the Mayor and assisted by the Deputy Mayor.**
- **Statement 1 is not correct:** Executive powers lie with the chief executive authority of the corporation who is generally a member of the Indian Administrative Services (IAS). Mayor is basically a formal head and ornamental figure of the corporation.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Though in the majority of states he is elected for a one-year renewable term but his office of a term is not fixed and it depends upon the will of respective state governments.
- **Statement 3 is not correct:** Though the majority of states in India follow the Commissionerate system, however in states such as **Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha** Mayors are directly elected by the people.

Q 48.B

- **Recent context: Union Home Minister on his recent visit to Meghalaya in July 2021 has launched the Green Sohra Afforestation Campaign at Sohra.**
- **Sohra, also known as Cherrapunji is a high-altitude town in the state of Meghalaya. It used to be the wettest place in India but due to indiscriminate harvesting in the name of development, it has lost its status as the wettest place in India to Mawsynram.**
- Sohra has an average annual precipitation of about 11,430 mm.
- Sohra has an average elevation of 1,430 metres and sits on a plateau in the southern part of the Khasi Hills, facing the plains of Bangladesh.

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- **There are some interesting living root bridges in villages near Sohra like the Umshiang root bridge, Mawsaw root bridge.**
- Khasi people are the native inhabitants of Sohra.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 49.D

- Democracy is about participation and accountability that can be achieved through vibrant and strong local governments which provides for active participation and strong accountability. It is the closest form of government to the masses. In 1882, Lord Rippon, known as the 'Father of Local Governance' (the then viceroy of India), took the initiative for local self-governance. Further, the 74th and 74th Constitutional Act, 1992 gave practical shape to the idea by establishing a three-tier structure by creating Panchayats and Municipalities at the local level.
- In the Union Of **India & Ors vs R. C. Jain & Ors 1981,** the Supreme Court of India cited some distinctive attributes and characteristics of a local authority, which was subsequently cited in other later judgments. These are:
  - It must have separate legal existence as a corporate body.
  - it must not be a mere governmental agency but a legally independent entity
  - it must function in a defined area and must ordinarily be elected wholly or partly, directly or indirectly by the inhabitants of the area
  - it must enjoy a certain degree of autonomy, which, though not complete, must be appreciable
  - The statute must entrust the authority with such governmental functions and duties as are usually entrusted to a municipal body for providing such amenities, as health and education services, etc to the inhabitants
  - It must have the power to raise funds in the furtherance of its activities and the fulfillment of the projects entrusted to it by levying taxes, rates, charges, fees, etc. all of which may be in addition to the money provided by the Government.
  - The essential component is that the control and management of the fund must vest in the authority.
- **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 50.D

- The Constitution of India specifies some of the privileges. These are:
  - They cannot be arrested during the session and 40 days before the beginning and 40 days after the end of a session. However, this privilege is available only in civil cases and not in criminal cases or preventive detention cases. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - Freedom of speech in Parliament i.e. no member is liable to any proceedings in any court for anything said or any vote given by him in Parliament or its committees. immunity to a member from any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said or any vote given by him in Parliament or any committee thereof. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
  - Immunity to a person from proceedings in any court in respect of the publication by or under the authority of either House of Parliament of any report, paper, votes or proceedings.
  - No officer or Member of Parliament empowered to regulate procedure or the conduct of business or to maintain order in Parliament can be subject to a court's jurisdiction in respect of exercise by him of those powers.
  - Members or officers of the House cannot be compelled to give evidence or to produce documents in courts of law, relating to the proceedings of the House without the permission of the House. They are also exempted from jury services in a case pending in a court when Parliament is in session. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 51.C

- Parliamentary privileges are special rights, immunities and exemptions enjoyed by the two Houses of Parliament, their committees and their members.
- They are necessary in order to secure the independence and effectiveness of their actions. Without these privileges, the Houses can neither maintain their authority, dignity and honour nor can protect their members from any obstruction in the discharge of their parliamentary responsibilities.
- The Constitution has also extended the parliamentary privileges to those persons who are entitled to speak and take part in the proceedings of a House of Parliament or any of its committees. These include the attorney general of India and Union ministers (even he is not a member of Parliament at that particular period of time)
- The parliamentary privileges do not extend to the president who is also an integral part of the Parliament.

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- **Parliamentary privileges can be classified into two broad categories:**
  - **Those that are enjoyed by each House of Parliament collectively.**
  - **Those that are enjoyed by the members individually.**
- **Individual Privileges:** The privileges belonging to the members individually are:
  - They cannot be arrested during the session of Parliament and 40 days before the beginning and 40 days after the end of a session.
    - This privilege is available only in civil cases and not in criminal cases or preventive detention cases.
  - They have freedom of speech in Parliament.
    - No member is liable to any proceedings in any court for anything said or any vote given by him in Parliament or its committees.
  - They are exempted from jury service.
    - They can refuse to give evidence and appear as a witness in a case pending in a court when Parliament is in session. However, this privilege is not available when Parliament is not in session.
- **Hence option(c) is the correct answer.**

Q 52.A

- There are five sources of income or revenue generation of the urban local bodies. These are:
  - **Tax revenue,**
  - **Non-tax revenue,**
  - **Grants,**
  - **Devolution,**
  - and **loans**
- **Statement 1 is correct:** Urban Local bodies receive various grants by central and state governments for several development programs, Infrastructure schemes, initiatives in reforms in urban governance, etc.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Devolution of funds consists of the transfer of funds from the state government to urban local bodies on the recommendation of the State Finance Commission.
- **Statement 3 is not correct:** Municipalities raise loans from state government and financial institutions to meet their capital expenditure. however, they required prior approval of the state government (and not the Governor) to raise or borrow the loans from financial institutions.

Q 53.B

- **Article 275** empowers the **Parliament** to make grants to the states which are in need of financial assistance and not to every state. Also, different sums may be fixed for different states. It consists of specific as well as general grants.
- These sums are **charged on the Consolidated Fund** of India every year.
- The **statutory grants under Article 275** (both general and specific) are given to the states on the recommendation of the **Finance Commission**. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **Article 282** empowers both the Centre and the states to make any grants for any public purpose, even if it is not within their respective legislative competence. These grants are also known as discretionary grants. They are **not** based on the recommendations of Comptroller and Auditor General of India. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**

Q 54.C

- **The Indian Constitution in Part IX under Article 243 M** provided that Nothing in this Part shall apply to the Scheduled Areas and the tribal areas which are referred to in **clause (2)** of **Article 244.** It includes:-
  - the States of Nagaland, Meghalaya, and Mizoram
  - Certain other areas including The Hill Areas in the State of Manipur for which District Councils exist under any law for the time being in force.
  - District of Darjeeling in the State of West Bengal for which Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council exists under any law for the time being in force and other areas related to panchayat in hill areas.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Parliament may, by law, extend the provisions of this Part to the Scheduled Areas and the tribal areas subject to such exceptions and modifications as may be specified in such law. The Parliament under this provision has enacted the **Provisions of Panchayat (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 popularly known as the PESA Act.**
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Such provisions extended by the parliament or law made shall be not deemed to be an amendment of the Constitution under article 368.

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Q 55.D

- Before entering his office, the Vice-President has to make and subscribe to an oath or affirmation. In his oath, the Vice-President swears:
  - to bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India; and
  - to faithfully discharge the duties of his office.
  - The oath of office to the Vice-President is administered by the President or some person appointed on that behalf by him.
  - **The President of India takes an oath to preserve, protect and defend the** Constitution of India. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Vice-President holds office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters his office. However, he can resign from his office at any time by addressing the **resignation letter to the President. Hence statement 3 is not correct.**
- A vacancy in the Vice-President's office can occur in any of the following ways:
  - On the expiry of his tenure of five years.
  - By his resignation.
  - On his removal.
  - By his death.
  - Otherwise, for example, when he becomes disqualified to hold office or when his election is declared void.
  - When the vacancy is going to be caused by the expiration of the term of the sitting vice-president, an election to fill the vacancy must be held before the expiration of the term.
  - If the office falls vacant by resignation, removal, death or otherwise, then election to fill the vacancy should be held as soon as possible after the occurrence of the vacancy.
  - The newly-elected vice-president remains in office for a full term of five years from the date he assumes charge of his office. **However, he can hold office beyond his term of five years until his successor assumes charge. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
  - He is also eligible for re-election to that office. He may be elected for any number of terms.

Q 56.B

- **Statement 1 is not correct:** 74th Constitutional Amendment Act gave Constitutional status to the Municipalities. It made the State governments under obligations to adopt the the system of municipalities in accordance with the provisions of the act. It applies to the union territories automatically however the president can modify the provisions.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Every District Planning Committee (DPC) shall, in preparing the draft development plan, have regard to:-
  - Matters of common interest between the Panchayats and the Municipalities including sharing of water and other physical and natural resources
  - The extent and type of available resources whether financial or otherwise.
  - **Consult such institutions and organizations as the Governor may, by order, specify.**
  - The Chairperson of every District Planning Committee shall forward the development plan, as recommended by such Committee, to the Government of the State.

Q 57.C

- Article 292 in The Constitution deals with the borrowing by the Government of India
- The **Union** shall have **unlimited power of borrowing**, that is:
  - The Central Government can borrow either **within India or outside** upon the security/guarantees of the Consolidated Fund of India.
  - It can do so **within the limits fixed by the Parliament** from time to time. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- Article 293 in The Constitution deals with the borrowing by the states.
- A State Government can borrow **within India (and not abroad)** upon the security/guarantees of the Consolidated Fund of the State. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
  - It can do so within the **limits fixed by the State legislature** from time to time.
  - The Central Government can make loans to any state or give guarantees in respect of loans raised by any state, but not if previous outstanding dues are pending.

Q 58.C

- **Recent Context:** Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued an advisory to banks and other financial institutions for the transition from London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) by December 2021 to any

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widely accepted alternative reference rate (AAR) like AONIA (Australian Interbank Overnight Cash Rate) to SARON (Swiss Average Rate Overnight).

- LIBOR will be phased out by June 30, 2023.
- **About LIBOR:** London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) is **a benchmark interest rate at which major global banks lend to one another in the international interbank market for short-term loans.**
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 59.B

- According to the constitution, the Parliament of India consists of three parts viz, the President, The Council of States, and the House of the People.
- **Though the President of India is not a member of either House of the Parliament and doesn't sit in the Parliament to attend its meetings, h**e is an integral part of the Parliament. This is because a bill passes by both the Houses of Parliament cannot become law without the assent of the President. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- **According** to the constitution, the President has the right to address both the Houses of the Parliament assembled together, at the first session after each general election to the House of the People and at the commencement of the first session of each year, and inform the Parliament of the causes of its summons. Besides the right to address a joint sitting of both houses at the commencement of the first session, the President also has the right to send messages to either House of Parliament either in regard to any pending bill or to other matter. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- He also performs functions relating to the proceeding of the Parliament, such as, he summons and pro-rogues both the Houses, dissolves the Lok Sabha, addresses both the Houses, issue ordinances when they are not in session etc. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 60.B

- Sarkaria Commission was set up in **June 1983** to examine the relationship and balance of power between state and central governments and suggest changes within the framework of the Constitution.
- It was a three member commission headed by R S Sarkaria, a retired judge of Supreme Court.
- The Commission did not favour structural changes and regarded the existing constitutional arrangements and principles relating to the institutions basically sound.
- But, it emphasised on the need for changes in the functional or operational aspects. Some of its important recommendations were:
    - A **permanent Inter-State Council** called the Inter-Governmental Council should be set up under Article 263.
    - Article 356 (President's Rule) should be used very sparingly.
    - The institution of All-India Services should be further strengthened and some more such services should be created.
    - The residuary powers of taxation should continue to remain with the Parliament.
    - The zonal councils should be constituted afresh and reactivated to promote the spirit of federalism.
    - The Centre should consult the states before making a law on a subject of the Concurrent List.
- **Shah Commission** was set up in **1977** to inquire into all the excesses committed during the Indian Emergency. **Liberhan Commission** was set up in **1992** to investigate the destruction of the disputed structure **Babri Masjid**. **Punchhi Commission** constituted by the Government of India in 2007 as a Commission on Centre-State relations.

Q 61.B

- **In addition to the budget that contains the ordinary estimates of income and expenditure for one financial year, various other grants are made by the Parliament under extraordinary or special circumstances:**
- **Supplementary Grant:** It is granted when the amount authorized by the Parliament through the appropriation act for a particular service for the current financial year is found to be insufficient for that year. **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**
- **Additional Grant:** It is granted when a need as arisen during the current financial year for additional expenditure upon some new service not contemplated in the budget for that year.
- **Token Grant:** It is granted when funds to meet the proposed expenditure on a new service can be made available by reappropriation. A demand for the grant of a token sum of Rs 1 is submitted to vote of the lok Sabha and if assented, funds are made available. Reappropriation involves transfer of funds from one head to another. It does not involve any additional expenditure.

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- **Excess Grant:** It is granted when money has been spent on any service during a financial year in excess of the amount granted for that service in the budget for that year.
- **Vote of Credit:** It is granted for meeting an unexpected demand upon the resources of India, when on account of the magnitude or the indefinite character of the service, the demand cannot be stated with the details ordinarily given in a budget.

Q 62.A

- **Indrajaal:** Hyderabad-based technology R&D firm Grene Robotics has designed and developed **India's first indigenous drone defence dome** called "Indrajaal". **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**
- The drone defence dome has the capability to autonomously protect an area of 1000-2000 sq km against aerial threats by assessing and acting on aerial threats such as Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), loitering munitions, and Low- Radar Cross Section (RCS) targets.
- It has gained significance after Jammu Air Base was attacked by UAVs to drop explosives next to the Mi-17 hangar.
- The ANTI-UAV systems will not only provide protection to defence bases but will be beneficial for linear infrastructures like international borders against advanced weaponry. Indrajaal is a paradigm shift in the drone warfare system including Low Radar cross-section (RCS) threat warfare.
- **Low Radar cross-section (RCS):** Low RCS includes ammunitions, rockets as well as drones fired from the enemy territory to target the other side.

Q 63.C

- **Powers and Duties of Speaker:**
  - She maintains order and decorum in the House for conducting its business and regulating its proceedings.
  - She is the final interpreter of the provisions of
    - The Constitution of India,
    - The Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of Lok Sabha, and
    - The parliamentary precedents,

    within the House.
  - She adjourns the House or suspends the meeting in absence of a quorum.
  - She presides over a joint sitting of the two Houses of the Parliament. Such a **sitting is summoned by the President** to settle a deadlock between the two Houses on a bill. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
  - She can allow a 'secret' sitting of the House at the request of the Leader of the House. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - She acts as the ex-officio chairman of the Indian Parliamentary Group.
  - She appoints the chairman of all parliamentary committees of Lok Sabha and supervises their functioning. She herself is the Chairman of the Business Advisory Committee, the Rules Committee and the General Purpose Committee. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 64.B

- In addition to the members of a House, **every minister** and the **attorney general of India** have the **right to speak** and **take part in the proceedings of either House,** any **joint sitting of both the Houses,** and **any committee of Parliament** of which he is a member, without being entitled to vote. **Hence statements 1 and 3 are not correct**.

- There are two reasons underlying this constitutional provision:
  - A minister can participate in the proceedings of a House, of which he is not a member i.e. a minister belonging to the Lok Sabha can participate in the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha and vice-versa. However, a minister belonging to the Lok Sabha **can not vote** in the Rajya Sabha and vice-versa. **Hence statement 2 is correct**.
  - A minister, who is not a member of either House, can participate in the proceedings of both the Houses. It should be noted here that a person can remain a minister for six months, without being a member of either House of Parliament.

Q 65.D

- **Recent Context:** Recently, during COVID19, Parsi community saw a record of 61 births assisted through the Jiyo Parsi Scheme.

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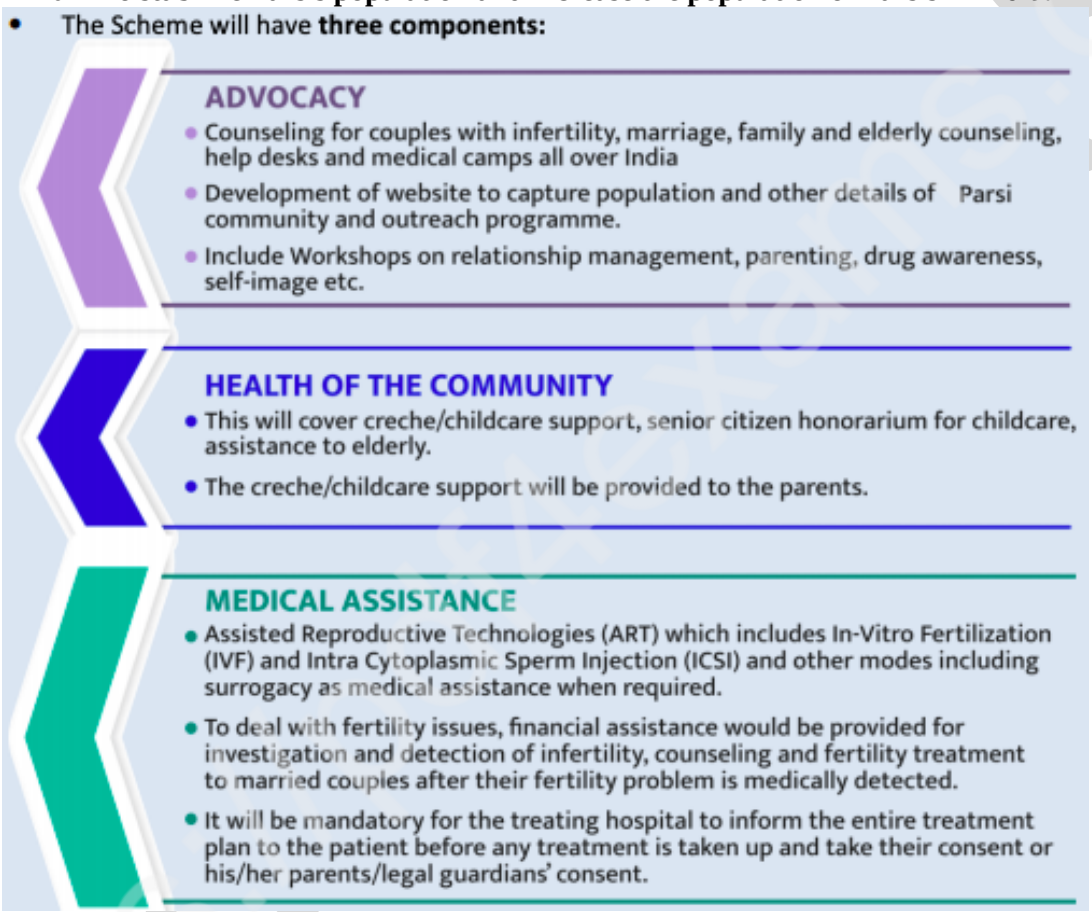
- **It is a Central Sector Scheme under Ministry of Minority Affairs launched in 2013. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- The Scheme will be implemented by the Parzor Foundation with the help of the Bombay Parsi Panchayat (BPP) and through the organizations/societies/Anjumans and Panchayat of the community concerned in existence for not less than three years.
- **Target groups: The scheme is meant for only Parsi communit**y. **Hence statement 2 is correct**.
  - Parsi married couples of childbearing ages who seek assistance.
  - Adults/young men/women/adolescent boys/girls for detection of diseases resulting with consent of parents/legal guardians.
- **Objectives:**
  - **To arrest the declining trend of Parsi population by adopting a scientific protocol and structured interventions. Hence statement 3 is correct.**
    - The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) of the Parsi community has reached below 1, which means that on an average, a Parsi woman in her total child bearing age has less than 1 child (0.8). o 31% of Parsis are over the age of 60 years and more than 30% Parsis are "Never married".
  - **To stabilize Parsis population and increase the population of Parsis in India.**



- **Transfer of Funds: Funds would be transferred electronically into bank account of Parzor Foundation.**
- **Monitoring, Impact assessment and evaluation of the scheme** would be carried out by the Ministry. Monitoring through independent agencies will also be taken up.

Q 66.B

- For the Governance of Urban Local Bodies, states have created many different urban bodies like Municipal Corporations, Municipalities, Town Area Committee, etc. In addition to these, the states have certain agencies to undertake specific functions belongs to the domain of above mentioned urban bodies like Municipal corporation or Municipalities that are known as Special Purpose Agencies.
- **Statement 1 is not correct:** These are statutory bodies created by an act of state Legislature or departments by an executive resolution to deal with functions allotted to them.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** These are created as a 'function-based agency rather than area-based to undertake specific functions allotted to them.
- **Statement 3 is not correct:** These special agencies work as autonomous bodies independently and are not subordinate agencies of the local municipal bodies.

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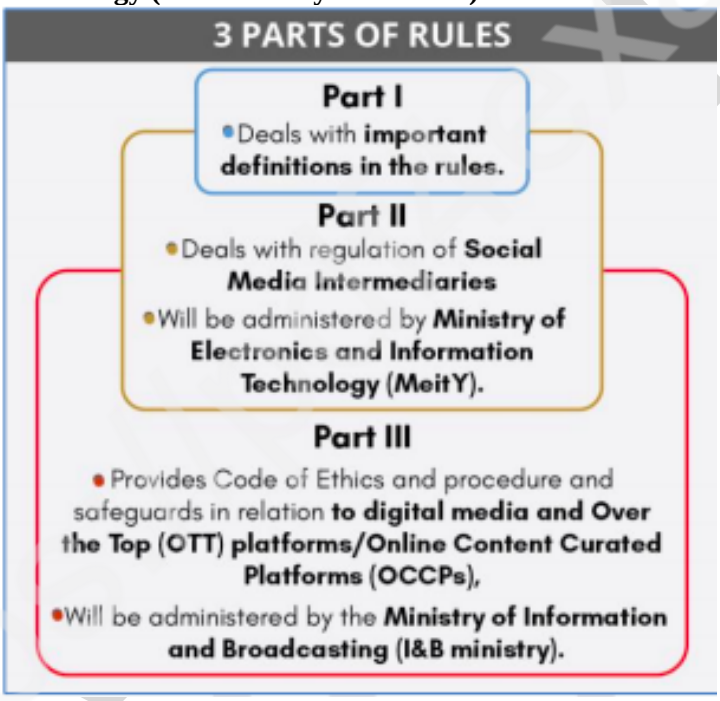
Q 67.C

- **The Indian Atomic Energy Commission (AEC)** was first set up in **1948 in the Department of Scientific Research, Ministry of Science and Technology.** In 1958, It was established in the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) by the Government resolution through Presidential Order.
- As per the resolution constituting the AEC, **the Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Atomic Energy is ex-officio Chairman of the Commission.** The other members of the commission are appointed on the recommendation of the Chairman and after approval by the Prime Minister.

Q 68.C

- **Digital Media Content Regulatory Council has been created by the Indian Broadcasting and Digital Foundation (IBDF) as an industry-led Self-Regulatory Body (SRB) for digital OTT platforms (over-the-top).**
- It is **formed as per the mandate of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **IBDF (earlier known as Indian Broadcasting Foundation was set up in 1999), the apex body of broadcasters and OTT operators has recently announced the appointment of Justice (Retd.) Vikramjit Sen as the Chairman,** along with six other eminent industry members for the newly formed Digital Media Content Regulatory Council (DMCRC).
- The Council constitutes prominent personalities from the Media & Entertainment industry and Online Curated Content Providers (OCCPs), with experience in IPR, programming and content creation.
- **About Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021**
  - **Rules 2021 has been framed by the Central Government in exercise of powers under section 87 (2) of the Information Technology Act, 2000 and in supersession of the earlier Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines) Rules 2011.**



- **In November 2020 the Union government brought OTT platforms and news and current affairs content on online platforms under the ambit of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting(I&B ministry). Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- In February 2021 the SC issued a notice to the Central Government seeking creation of a proper board, institution or association for managing and monitoring OTT, streaming and media platforms

Q 69.D

- Article 74 clearly states that there shall be a council of ministers with the Prime Minister at the head to aid and advise the President who 'shall, in the exercise of his functions, act in accordance with such advice i.e. In the exercise of all his functions, the President has to act in accordance with the advice of the council of Ministers. **Hence statement 1 is correct**.
- The executive and legislative powers and functions of the President are:

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- **All executive actions** of the Government of India are formally taken in his name. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- He can make rules specifying the manner in which the orders and other instruments made and executed in his name shall be authenticated.
- He can make rules for more convenient transactions of business of the Union government, and for allocation of the said business among the ministers.
- He can seek any information relating to the administration of affairs of the Union, and proposals for legislation from the prime minister.
- He can require the Prime Minister to submit, for consideration of the council of ministers, any matter on which a decision has been taken by a minister but, which has not been considered by the council.
- He directly administers the union territories through administrators appointed by him.
- **He can declare any area as a scheduled area** and has powers with respect to the administration of scheduled areas and tribal areas. The president can increase or decrease its area or alter its boundaries. He can cancel such designation after consultation with the governor or can make fresh orders redefining the schedule areas. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 70.B

- The Vice-President, like the president, is elected not directly by the people but by the method of indirect election. He is elected by the members of an electoral college.
  - It consists of **both elected and nominated members** of the Parliament (in the case of the President, only elected members). **Hence statement 1 is** correct.
  - It does not include the members of the state legislative assemblies (in the case of the President, the elected members of the state legislative assemblies are included).
- The Vice- President's election is held in accordance with the system of **proportional representation** by means of the single transferable vote and the voting is by **secret ballot**. **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**
- All doubts and disputes in connection with the election of the Vice-President are inquired into and decided by the Supreme Court whose decision is final.
- If the election of a person as Vice-President is declared void by the Supreme Court, acts done by him before the date of such declaration of the Supreme Court are not invalidated (i.e., they continue to remain in force).
- The election of a person as Vice-President **cannot be** challenged on the ground that the electoral college was incomplete (i.e., the existence of any vacancy among the members of the electoral college). **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 71.B

- The work of the Government of India is distributed into different Ministries/Departments.
- A Department has also been defined in the General Financial Rules as follows:
  - **Department**
    - A department is responsible for the formulation of policies of the government in relation to business allocated to it and also for the execution and review of those policies.
    - A department is normally headed by a secretary to the Government of India who acts as the administrative head of the department and principal adviser of the Minister on all matters of policy and administration within the department.
  - **Wing**
    - For the efficient disposal of business allotted to it, a department is divided into wings
    - Special Secretary/Additional Secretary/Joint Secretary is generally the incharge of each wing.
    - Such a functionary is normally vested with the maximum measure of independent functioning and responsibility in respect of the business falling within his wing subject, to the overall responsibility of the Secretary for the administration of the department as a whole.
  - **Division**
    - A wing normally comprises a number of divisions
    - Each division functions under the charge of an officer of the level of Director/Joint Director Deputy Secretary.
    - A division may have several branches each under the charge of an Under Secretary or equivalent officer.
  - **Section**
    - A section is generally the lowest organizational unit in a department
    - It has a well-defined area of work.

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    - It normally consists of assistants and clerks supervised by a Section Officer. Initial handling of cases (including noting and drafting) is generally done by, assistants and clerks who are also known as the dealing hands.
  - While the above represents the commonly adopted pattern of organization of a department, there are certain variations, the most notable among them being the desk officer system.
    - In this system, the work of a department at the lowest level is organized into distinct functional desks each manned by two desk functionaries of appropriate ranks e.g. Under Secretary or Section Officer.
    - Each desk functionary handles the cases himself and is provided adequate stenographic and clerical assistance.
  - **Hence 1-3-2-4 is the correct sequence.**

Q 72.D

- **Indo-Thai coordinated Patrol (Indo-Thai CORPAT)**: Indian Navy and Royal Thai Navy **conducted the 31st edition of India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (Indo-Thai CORPAT) in the Andaman Sea.**
- **It is a bi-annual exercise, carried since 2005,** to strengthen maritime links between two nations and to keep the vital part of the Indian Ocean safe and secure for global trade.
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 73.D

- The term Leader of the House has been defined in Rules of Procedure of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. The Rules of Lok Sabha (Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Lok Sabha) provides that the leader of the house means the prime minister, if he is a member of the house or a minister who is a member of the Lok Sabha and is nominated by the prime minister to function as the leader of the house. The Constitution does not provide for any such provision. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The Prime Minister is invariably the Leader of the Lok Sabha except under certain circumstances like when the Prime Minister is a member of The Rajya Sabha etc.
- The office of the leader of opposition is not mentioned in the constitution but is mentioned in the Parliamentary Statue. The leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha were accorded statutory recognition in 1977 through the Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act, 1977. In 1969, they were recognized for the first time. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 74.D

- Article 178 in The Constitution provides for the office of Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.
- The speaker is elected by the assembly from amongst its members and remains in the office during the life of the assembly. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Article 179 deals with the vacation and resignation of, and removal from, the offices of Speaker and Deputy Speaker. The speaker vacates his office earlier if:
  - He ceases to be the member of the assembly.
  - He resigns by writing to the deputy speaker.
  - Removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all the then members of the assembly.
- He is the final interpreter of the provisions of
  - constitution of India,
  - the rules of procedure and conduct of business of assembly, and
  - the legislative precedents, within the assembly. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 75.B

- **Recent context: India has decided to explore indigenous deposits of Phosphatic rock, a step towards becoming 'AatmaNirbhar' in Fertilizer production.** It is in line with India's commitment to reduce dependency on fertilizer imports and to gain 'AatmaNirbharta' in all fertilizers.
- **Rock phosphates or phosphorites are sedimentary phosphatic deposits comprising a fine-grained mixture of various calcium phosphates, most important being hydroxylapatite, carbonate apatite, fluorapatite and their solid solutions.**
- **About 80% of phosphate production in the world is derived from phosphate rocks (phosphorite) containing one or more phosphatic minerals**, usually calcium phosphate of sufficient purity and quantity to permit its use directly or after concentration in manufacturing commercial products.

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- **India is deficient in Rock Phosphate availability. Rock Phosphate production is only from two states namely, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. Currently, India is 90% dependent on imports for Rock Phosphate. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Rock Phosphate is an important natural source of Phosphorous and is used as raw material for the production of chemical phosphatic fertilizers like DAP and NPK fertilizers. The paucity of this raw material is constraining the attainment of self-sufficiency in fertilizer production. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Further, volatility in international prices affects domestic prices of fertilizers. It hinders the progress and development of the agriculture sector in the country and puts extra pressure on our farmers.

Q 76.B

- **Article 123 of the Constitution** empowers the President to promulgate ordinances during the recess of Parliament. These ordinances have the same force and effect as an act of Parliament but are in the nature of temporary laws.
- The ordinance-making power is the most important legislative power of the President. It has been vested in him to deal with unforeseen or urgent matters. But, the exercises of this power is subject to the following four limitations:
  - He can promulgate an ordinance only **when both the Houses of Parliament** are **not in session** or when either of the two Houses of Parliament is not in session. An ordinance can also be issued when only one House is in session because a law can be passed by both the Houses and not by one House alone.
  - An ordinance made when both the Houses are in session is void. Thus, the power of the President to legislate by ordinance is not a parallel power of legislation.
  - He can make an ordinance only when he is satisfied that the circumstances exist that render it necessary for him to take immediate action.
- **In Cooper's case(1970), the Supreme Court held** that the President's satisfaction can be questioned in a court on the ground of malafide. This means that the decision of the President to issue an ordinance can be questioned in a court on the ground that the President has prorogued one House or both Houses of Parliament deliberately with a view to promulgating an ordinance on a controversial subject, so as to bypass the parliamentary decision and thereby circumventing the authority of the Parliament.
- An ordinance can be issued only **on those subjects on which the Parliament** can make laws.
- An ordinance is subject to the same constitutional limitation as an act of Parliament. Hence, an ordinance cannot abridge or take away any of the fundamental rights.
- Every ordinance issued by the President during the recess of parliament must be laid before both the Houses of Parliament when it reassembles.
  - **The rules of Lok Sabha require** that whenever a bill seeking to replace an ordinance is introduced in the House, a statement explaining the circumstances that had necessitated immediate legislation by ordinance should also be placed before the House**. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **Nothing is mentioned in the Constitution about the Re-promulgation of ordinances. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
  - So far, no case has gone to the Supreme Court regarding repromulgation of the ordinance by the President.
  - But, the judgment of the Supreme Court in the DC Wadhwa case (1987) is highly relevant here. The court ruled that successive repromulgation of ordinances with the same text without any attempt to get the bills passed by the assembly would amount to a violation of the Constitution and the ordinance so repromulgated is liable to be struck down.

Q 77.D

- In every State, a State Legal Services Authority, and in every High Court, a High Court Legal Services Committee has been constituted. The District Legal Services Authorities, Taluk Legal Services Committees have been constituted in the Districts and most of the Taluks to give effect to the policies and directions of the NALSA and to provide free legal services to the people and conduct Lok Adalats in the State. The Lok Adalat is a forum where the cases (or disputes) which are pending in a court or which are at the pre-litigation stage (not yet brought before a court) are compromised or settled in an amicable manner.
- Primarily, the State Legal Services Authorities, District Legal Services Authorities, Taluk Legal Services Committees, etc. have been asked to discharge the following main functions on regular basis:
- **To provide free and competent legal services to eligible persons.**
- **To organize Lok Adalats for amicable settlement of disputes.**

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- **To organize legal awareness camps in the rural areas.**

Additional Information:

- **National Legal Services Authority**
  - Article 39A of the Constitution of India provides for free legal aid to the poor and weaker sections of the society and ensures justice for all. Articles 14 and 22(1) of the Constitution also make it obligatory for the State to ensure equality before the law and a legal system that promotes justice on the basis of equal opportunity to all. In the year 1987, the Legal Services Authorities Act was enacted by the parliament which came into force on 9th November 1995 to establish a nationwide uniform network for providing free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of the society on the basis of equal opportunity. The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has been constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to monitor and evaluate the implementation of legal aid programmes and to lay down policies and principles for making legal services available under the Act.
- The free legal services include:
  - Payment of court fee, process fees, and all other charges payable or incurred in connection with any legal proceedings.
  - Providing service of lawyers in legal proceedings.
  - Obtaining and supply of certified copies of orders and other documents in legal proceedings.
  - Preparation of appeal, paper book including printing and translation of documents in legal proceedings.
- The persons eligible for getting free legal services to include:
  - Women and children
  - Members of SC/ST
  - Industrial workmen
  - Victims of mass disaster, violence, flood, drought, earthquake, industrial disaster
  - Disabled persons
  - Persons in custody
  - Persons whose annual income does not exceed ₹1 lakh (in the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee the limit ₹1,25,000/-)
  - Victims of trafficking in human beings or begar

Q 78.B

- Article 352 contains provisions related to national emergency, the President can declare National Emergency when the security of India or any part of it is threatened by war or external aggression or armed rebellion.
- A Proclamation of national emergency has various and wide-ranging effects on the political system. The fabric of the centre-state relations undergoes basic change.
- **Statement 1 is not correct:** During a National Emergency, the Parliament becomes empowered to make laws on any subject mentioned in the state list. The centre becomes entitled to execute directions to a state on any matter. Though **the state governments are not suspended they are brought under complete control of the centre.**
- **Statement 2 is correct:** While the proclamation of national emergency is in operation, the life of look sabha may be extended beyond its normal term by the law of parliament (for any length of time) for one year at a time. However, after six months of emergency ceased to exist this extension cannot be continued.
- During the National Emergency, the President can modify the constitutional distribution of revenue between Centre and state. Such modifications continue till the end of the Financial year in which the National Emergency ceased to exist.

Q 79.C

- While the Article 83 deals with the duration of Houses of Parliament, Article 85 deals with the sessions of Parliament, prorogation and dissolution.
- The Lok Sabha is **not** a continuing chamber. Its normal term is five years from the date of its first meeting after the general elections, after which it automatically dissolves. However, **the President is authorised to dissolve the Lok Sabha at any time even before the completion of five years and for this recommendation of the Rajya Sabha is not required**. **Hence statement 1 is not correct**.
- The term of the Lok Sabha can be extended during the period of national emergency **by a law of Parliament for** one year at a time for any length of time. However, this extension can not continue beyond a period of six months after the emergency has ceased to operate**. Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

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Q 80.A

- As per **Article 246 (1)** of the Indian Constitution Parliament has exclusive power to make laws with respect to any of the matters enumerated in **List I** in the Seventh Schedule.
  - **List I - Union List**: It includes 100 subjects like defence, **banking**, foreign affairs, **currency and coinage**, atomic energy, insurance and so on.
- According to **Article 246 (3)**, the Legislature of any State has exclusive power to make laws for such State or any part thereof with respect to any of the matters enumerated in **List II** in the Seventh Schedule
  - **List II - State List:** It includes 61 subjects like public order, **agriculture**, prisons, local government, **public health and sanitation** and so on.
- According to **Article 246 (2)**, Parliament, and, subject to clause (1), the Legislature of any State also, have power to make laws with respect to any of the matters enumerated in **List III** in the Seventh Schedule
  - **List III - Union List:** It includes 52 subjects like **education**, electricity, labour welfare, drugs and so on.
  - The **42nd Amendment Act of 1976** transferred five subjects to Concurrent List from State List i.e. **education, forests, weights and measures, protection of wild animals and birds, and administration of justice**; constitution and organisation of all courts except the Supreme Court and the High Courts.

Q 81.B

- **Article 75** clearly states that the **council of ministers is collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha.**
  - This means that all the ministers own joint responsibility to the Lok Sabha for all their acts of omission and commission. They work as a team and swim or sink together.
  - When the **Lok Sabha passes a no-confidence motion** against the council of ministers, all the ministers have to resign including those ministers who are from the Rajya Sabha. **Each minister need not resign separately**, the resignation of the prime minister amounts to the resignation of the entire council of ministers. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
  - Alternatively, the council of ministers can advise the president to dissolve the Lok Sabha on the ground that the House does not represent the views of the electorate faithfully and call for fresh elections. The President may not oblige the council of ministers that has lost the confidence of the Lok Sabha.
  - The principle of collective responsibility also means that the **Cabinet's decisions bind all cabinet ministers** (and other ministers) even if they differed in the cabinet meeting. It is the duty of every minister to stand by cabinet decisions and support them both within and outside the Parliament. **If any minister disagrees with a cabinet decision and is not prepared to defend it, he must resign.** Several ministers have resigned in the past owing to their differences with the cabinet. For example, Dr BR Ambedkar resigned because of his differences with his colleagues on the Hindu Code Bill in 1953. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- Article 75 also contains the principle of **individual responsibility**. It states that the ministers hold office during the pleasure of the president, which means that the President can remove a minister even at a time when the council of ministers enjoys the confidence of the Lok Sabha.
- In Britain, every order of the King for any public act is countersigned by a minister. If the order is in violation of any law, the minister would be held responsible and would be liable in the court. The legally accepted phrase in Britain is, "The king can do no wrong." Hence, he cannot be sued in any court.
  - In India, on the other hand, **there is no provision in the Constitution** for **the system of legal responsibility of a minister**. It is not required that an order of the President for a public act should be countersigned by a minister. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 82.D

- Articles 153 of the Constitution of India provides for the office of Governor for each state. As per Article 155 and Article 156 of the Constitution, a Governor of a state is an appointee of the President.
- A governor holds office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters his office. However, this term of five years is subject to the pleasure of the President. Further, he can resign at any time by addressing a resignation letter to the President.
- The Supreme Court held that the pleasure of the President is not justifiable. However, the court can require the central government to produce the materials on the basis of which the decision was made in order to verify the presence of compelling reasons and check for any arbitrariness. The governor has no security of tenure and no fixed term of office. He may be removed by the President at any time.

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- **The Constitution does not lay down** any grounds upon which a governor may be removed by the President. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- The President may transfer a Governor appointed to one state to another state for the rest of the term. Further, a Governor whose term has expired may be reappointed in the same state or any other state.
- A governor can hold office beyond his term of five years until his successor assumes charge. The underlying idea is that there must be a governor in the state and there cannot be an interregnum.
- Governor can be removed by the President at any time**. But there is no provision for impeaching the Governor by the State Legislature**. Indeed, if the Governor misbehaves or acts in a manner against the interests of the people of the State, as perceived by the State Legislature they cannot do anything except perhaps complain to the President.
- **The President can make such provision** as he thinks fit for the discharge of the functions of the governor in any contingency not provided for in the Constitution, for example, the death of a sitting governor. Thus, the chief justice of the concerned state high court may be appointed temporarily to discharge the functions of the governor of that state. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 83.C

- The Speaker is elected by the Lok Sabha from amongst its members (as soon as may be, after its first sitting).
- Whenever the office of the Speaker falls vacant, the Lok Sabha elects another member to fill the vacancy. **The date of election of the Speaker is fixed by the President. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Usually, the Speaker remains in office during the life of the Lok Sabha. However, he has to vacate his office earlier in any of the following three cases:
  - if he ceases to be a member of the Lok Sabha;
  - if he resigns by writing to the Deputy Speaker; and
  - if he is removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all then members of the Lok Sabha. Such a resolution can be moved only after giving 14 days' advance notice.
- When a resolution for the removal of the Speaker is under consideration of the House, she cannot preside at the sitting of the House, though she may be present. However, she can speak and take part in the proceedings of the House at such a time and **vote in the first instance, though not in event of equality of votes. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 84.C

- **World's first genetically modified (GM) rubber:** A Rubber Board research farm on the outskirts of Guwahati now sports the **world's first genetically modified (GM)** rubber plant tailored for the climatic conditions in the Northeast. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - The GM rubber has additional copies of the gene MnSOD, or manganese-containing superoxide dismutase, inserted in the plant, which is expected to tide over the severe cold conditions during winter — a major factor affecting the growth of young rubber plants in the region. The MnSOD gene has the ability to protect plants from the adverse effects of severe environmental stresses such as cold and drought. **MnSOD gene used in the GM rubber was taken from the rubber plant itself.**
  - The plant was developed at the Kerala-based Rubber Research Institute of India (RRII). This is the first time any GM crop has been developed exclusively for this region after years of painstaking research in RRII's biotechnology laboratory.
  - **Natural rubber is a native of warm humid Amazon forests and is not naturally suited for the colder conditions in the Northeast,** which is one of the largest producers of rubber in India. The growth of young rubber plants remains suspended during the winter months, which are also characterized by progressive drying of the soil. This is the reason for the long immaturity period of this crop in the region. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

Q 85.A

Article 356 of Indian Constitution empowers the President to issue a proclamation, if he is satisfied that a situation has arisen in which the government of a state cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

- This is popularly known as **'President's Rule'**.
- A proclamation imposing President's Rule must be approved by both the Houses of Parliament **within two months** from the date of its issue.
- If approved by both the Houses of Parliament, the President's Rule continues for six months.
- It can be extended for a maximum period of three years **with the approval** of the Parliament, every six months. **Hence statement 1 is not correct**.

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- President rule has no effect on Fundamental Rights of the citizens. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- It should be noted here that the President cannot assume to himself the powers vested in the concerned state high court or suspend the provisions of the Constitution relating to it.
    - The constitutional position, status, powers and functions of the concerned state high court **remain same** even during the President's Rule. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 86.A

- Centre is empowered to give directions to the States in the execution of following matters:
    - The **construction and maintenance** of the means of communication of **national or military importance** by the state. **Hence option 3 is correct.**
    - The measures to be taken for the protection of the **railways** within the State. **Hence option 1 is correct.**
    - Providing adequate facilities for instruction in the **mother-tongue** at the primary stage of education to children of linguistic minority groups in the State.
    - The drawing up and execution of the schemes essential for the **welfare of the Scheduled Tribes** in the State. **Hence option 2 is not correct.**
- The coercive sanction behind the Central directions is Article 365 of Indian Constitution.

Q 87.A

- The first hour of every parliamentary sitting is allotted for the Question Hour and during this time members can ask three types of questions Starred questions, Unstarred questions, Short notice question. An Unstarred Question is one to which a written answer is desired by the member and is deemed to be laid on the Table of the House by the Minister. Thus it is not called for oral answer in the House and no supplementary question can be asked thereon.
- **Statement 1 is correct: As unstarred questions are part of question hour first hour is usually slotted for this.** Usually, members ask the questions and ministers give answers in addition to this questions can also be asked from private members.
- **Statement 2 is not correct:** It requires a **Written answer** whereas starred questions require oral answers.
- **Statement 3 is not correct: Supplementary questions cannot be asked** as written answers are required. In starred questions and short notice questions supplementary questions can be asked as oral answers are required.

Q 88.D

- The Tenth Schedule contains the following provisions with respect to the disqualification of members of Parliament and the state legislatures on the ground of defection:
- A member of a House belonging to any political party shall be disqualified for being a member of the House—
    - if she has voluntarily given up his membership of such political party on whose ticket she is elected to the House; or
    - if she votes or abstains from voting in such House contrary to any direction issued by the political party to which she belongs or by any person or authority authorized by it in this behalf, without obtaining, the prior permission of such political party, person or authority and such voting or abstention has not been condoned by such political party, person or authority within fifteen days from the date of such voting or abstention. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
    - An independent member of a House shall be disqualified for being a member of the House if she joins any political party after such election. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
    - A nominated member of a House shall be disqualified for being a member of the House if she joins any political party after the expiry of six months from the date on which she takes her seat. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 89.B

- **The word cryptogamic originates from the Greek word, 'Kryptos meaning "hidden" and "gameein" meaning "to marry". Thus, cryptogamic refers to "hidden reproduction". Cryptogams are one of the oldest groups of plant species, existing since the Jurassic era. A cryptogamic species does not produce any seed or flower. These non-seed-bearing plants include algae, bryophytes, lichens, ferns, and fungi.**
- **India's first cryptogamic garden housing nearly 50 species of lichens, ferns and fungi was inaugurated in Uttarakhand's Dehradun district at Deoban recently.**
- Deoban in Uttarakhand was chosen because of low pollution levels and moisture needed for these species, otherwise also it is a good natural habitat of these species.

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- The cryptogamic organisms play a vital role in the ecosystem. Algae, one of the most primitive organisms, are excellent at cleaning the environment. Similarly, mosses prevent soil erosion by binding the soil.
- **Importance of cryptogams**
  - Further, the cryptogamic species are used for the creation of various medicines, scents, and natural colours.
  - Algae are healthy sources of carbohydrates, fats, proteins, and vitamins. It is used as a food ingredient in several countries like China, Japan, Norway, Scotland, etc. Further, it can also be used as a liquid fertilizer which helps in repairing nitrogen levels in the soil.
  - Bryophytes (mosses, liverworts) too, like algae clean the environment. This cryptogamic species monitors air pollution, prevents soil erosion, and helps in soil formation over the bare rocky surface. Mosses have a high water retention capacity, which makes them suitable for the transportation and packaging of plants. Mosses are also indicators of mineral deposits.
  - Ferns, a unique group of plants, are grown as ornamental plants. They are indicators of the moisture regime of the area.
  - Similarly, lichens are equally important for the environment. They are not only pollution monitors but are also important due to their nutritional values. They are a source of nutrition for snails, termites, caterpillars, slugs, etc. Cladonia rangiferina (Reindeer moss) is the main food for reindeers (a kind of deer) in polar countries.
  - Moreover, lichens are very useful to people in diverse cultures, especially as a source of drugs, medicines, perfumery, foodstuff, dyes, bio-monitoring, and other useful compounds. Eg, lichens have been used as coloring agents in the leather industry, in the cosmetic industry for making items like perfumes, incessant, etc.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 90.D

- **The latest edition of the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) was hosted by the French Navy at La Réunion island.**
- The 'Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) is a voluntary initiative that seeks to increase maritime cooperation among navies of the littoral states of the Indian Ocean Region by providing an open and inclusive forum for discussion of regionally relevant maritime issues.
- The forum helps to preserve peaceful relations between nations, and thus is critical to building an effective maritime security architecture in the Indian Ocean Region and is also fundamental to our collective prosperity.
- **The inaugural IONS Seminar was held by the Indian Navy in 2008. Subsequent seminars and meetings of the 'Conclave of Chiefs' have been held at the commencement of each two-year IONS Chairmanship.**
- There are in total 24 members in IONS.
  - South Asian Littorals:
    - Bangladesh, India, Maldives, **Pakistan**, Seychelles, Sri Lanka and **United Kingdom** (British Indian Ocean Territory)
  - West Asian Littorals:
    - Iran, Oman, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates
  - East African Littorals:
    - **France (Reunion),** Kenya, Mauritius, Mozambique, South Africa, and Tanzania.
  - South East Asian and Australian Littorals:
    - **Australia**, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Timor-Leste.
- **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 91.D

- **Article 148 under the Constitution of India** provides for the office of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) which is an independent office. He is the head of the Indian Audit and Accounts department. CAG is one of the bulwarks of Indian democracy whose role is to uphold the Constitution and parliamentary laws in the field of Financial administration. He audits the accounts of central and state governments and related transactions related to funds, deposits, advances, etc.
- C&AG's mandate for audit of Local Bodies flows basically from the CAG's DPC Act 1971, and he has been conducting the audit of receipts and expenditure of those local bodies both rural and urban, which are substantially financed from Union or State revenues under Section 14 of the Act.

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- Most states are under the provisions of section 20 (1) of the DPC Act which states that the C&AG may be requested by **the President or the Governor of a State or the Administrator of a Union territory having a legislative assembly,** to undertake the audit of the accounts of a body or authority on such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon between him and the concerned government. **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 92.A

- The Rajya Sabha is a continuing chamber, first constituted in 1952, i.e. it is permanent body which is not subject to dissolution. One-third of its members are retired every second year and their seats are filled by fresh elections and presidential nominations at the beginning of every third year. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The retiring members are eligible for re-election and renomination any number of times. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- **The Constitution has not fixed the term of office of the Rajya Sabha and left it to the Parliament.** Accordingly, the Parliament in the **Representation of People Act 1951** provided that the term of office of a member of the Rajya Sabha shall be six years. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 93.D

- No discussion on a matter of general public importance can take place except on a motion made with the consent of the presiding officer. The House expresses its decisions or opinions on various issues through the adoption or rejection of motions moved by either ministers or private members.
- **Privilege Motion:** It is concerned with the breach with of parliamentary privileges by a minister. It is moved by a member when he feels that a minister has committed a breach of privilege of the House or one or more of its members by withholding facts of a case or by giving wrong or distorted facts. Its purpose is to censure a minister who has committed breach of privilege.
- **Censure Motion:** It can be moved against an individual ministers or group of ministers or entire council of ministers. It should state the reason for its adoption in the Lok Sabha. It is moved for censuring the council of ministers for specific policies and actions. If it is passed in the Lok Sabha, the council of ministers need not resign from the office.
- **No-confidence Motion:** It can be moved only against the entire council of ministers and need not state the reason for its adoption. If it is passed in the Lok Sabha, the council of ministers must resign from the office.
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 94.C

- The Constitution lays down a special procedure for the passing of Money bill:
  - A money bill cannot be introduced in the legislative council. It can be introduced in the legislative assembly only and on the recommendation of the governor. It can be introduced only by the minister. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - When a money bill is reserved for the consideration of the President. He may either give his assent or withhold his assent but cannot return the bill for reconsideration. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 95.C

- According to Article 83(2) of the Constitution, completion of five years from the first day of its meeting amounts to dissolution of the Lower House. The normal term of Lok Sabha is five years, however, the President is authorized to dissolve the Lok Sabha before completion of five years on the advice of the Prime Minister and this **cannot be questioned in a court of law**. It can also be dissolved if the President feels that no viable government can be formed after the resignation or fall of a regime. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Further, the term of Lok Sabha can be extended during the period of national emergency by a law of Parliament for one year at a time for any length of time. However, this extension cannot continue beyond a period of six months after the emergency ceased to operate. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 96.A

- The term of the Prime Minister is not fixed and he holds office during the pleasure of the president. However, this does not mean that the president can dismiss the Prime Minister at any time. So long as the Prime Minister enjoys the majority support in the Lok Sabha, he cannot be dismissed by the President. However, if he loses the confidence of the Lok Sabha, he must resign or the President can dismiss him. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**

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- The Prime Minister stands at the head of the council of ministers, the other ministers can not function when the Prime Minister resigns or dies. In other words, the resignation or death of an incumbent Prime Minister automatically dissolves the council of ministers and thereby generates a vacuum. The resignation or death of any other minister, on the other hand, merely creates a vacancy which the Prime Minister may or may not like to fill. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**
- The salary and allowances of the Prime Minister are **determined by the Parliament from time to time**. He gets the salary and allowances that are payable to a member of Parliament. Additionally, he gets a sumptuary allowance, free accommodation, a traveling allowance, medical facilities, etc. In 2001, the Parliament increased his sumptuary allowance from 1,500 to 3,000 per month. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
    - **Charged expenditure** includes the emoluments of the President and the salaries and allowances of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha and the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, Judges of Supreme Court, Comptroller and Auditor General of India, and certain other items specified in the Constitution of India under **Article 112(3).**

Q 97.A

- The Constitution does not provide for the mechanism of joint sitting of two Houses of the state legislature to resolve a deadlock between them over the passage of a bill.
- If a bill after reconsideration is passed by the legislative assembly for the second time and transmitted to the legislative council and the legislative council rejects the bill again or proposes amendments that are not accepted to the legislative assembly, or does not pass the bill within one month, then the bill is deemed to have been passed by both the Houses in the form in which it was passed by the legislative assembly for the second time.
- When a bill, which has originated in the legislative council and sent to the legislative assembly, is rejected by the latter, the bill ends and becomes dead.
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q 98.A

While a proclamation of Emergency is in force, the normal fabric of the Centre–state relations undergoes a basic change.

- During a national emergency, the executive power of the Centre extends to directing any state regarding the manner in which its executive power is to be exercised.
- During a national emergency, the Parliament becomes empowered to make laws on any subject mentioned in the State List. Although the **legislative power of a state legislature is not suspended**, it becomes subject to the overriding power of the Parliament.
    - Thus, the normal distribution of the legislative powers between the Centre and states is suspended, though the **state legislatures are not suspended. Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- While a proclamation of national emergency is in operation, the **President can issue** ordinances on the state subjects also, if the Parliament is not in session. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**

Q 99.D

- **The Constitution does not contain** any specific procedure for the **selection and appointment of the Prime Minister.**
- **Article 75 says** only that the Prime Minister shall be appointed by the president. However, this does not imply that the president is free to appoint anyone as the Prime Minister. In accordance with the conventions of the parliamentary system of government, the President has to appoint the leader of the majority party in the Lok Sabha as the Prime Minister. But, when no party has a clear majority in the Lok Sabha, then the President may exercise his personal discretion in the selection and appointment of the Prime Minister.
    - In such a situation, the President usually appoints the leader of the largest party or coalition in the Lok Sabha as the Prime Minister and asks him to seek a vote of confidence in the House within a month.
- There is also one more situation when the president may have to exercise his individual judgement in the selection and appointment of the Prime Minister, that is, when the Prime Minister in office dies suddenly and there is no obvious successor.
- In 1980, the Delhi High Court held that **the Constitution does not require that a person must prove his majority in the Lok Sabha before he is appointed** as the Prime Minister. The President may first appoint him the Prime Minister and then ask him to prove his majority in the Lok Sabha within a reasonable period.

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- In 1997, the Supreme Court held that a **person who is not a member of either House of Parliament can be appointed as Prime Minister for six months**, within which, he should become a member of either House of Parliament; otherwise, he ceases to be the Prime Minister.
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 100.B

- Conventionally, the budget is presented to the Lok Sabha by the finance minister on the last working day of February. Since 2017, the presentation of the budget has been advanced to 1st of February. The general discussion on budget begins a few days after its presentation. It takes place in both the Houses of Parliament and lasts usually for three to four days. After the general discussion on the budget is over, the Houses are adjourned for about three to four weeks. During this gap period, the 24 departmental standing committees of Parliament examine and discuss in detail the demands for grants of the concerned ministers and prepare reports on them.
- **Voting on Demand for grants:**
  - It is the **4th stage** of budget in the Parliament:
  - In the light of the reports of the departmental standing committees, the Lok Sabha takes up voting of demands for grants.
  - The demands are presented ministry-wise. A demand becomes a grant after it has been duly voted.
  - The voting of demands for grants is the exclusive privilege of the Lok Sabha, that is, the Rajya Sabha has no power of voting the demands.
  - The voting is confined to the votable part of the budget—the expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India is not submitted to the vote (it can only be discussed).
  - Each demand is voted separately by the Lok Sabha. During this stage, the members of Parliament can discuss the details of the budget. They can also move motions to reduce any demand for the grant.
  - In total, 26 days are allotted for the voting of demands. **On the last day, the Speaker puts all the remaining demands to vote and disposes of them whether they have been discussed by the members or not**. This is known as **'guillotine'**. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Token Cut Motion:**
  - It ventilates a specific grievance that is within the sphere of responsibility of the Government of India.
  - When a token cut motion is moved, a token amount of ₹100 is cut from the total grants under a head to express displeasure. It is not to oppose the complete bill but only to show displeasure that certain section of grants needs to be modified.
  - The significance of a cut motion lies in:
    - facilitating the initiation of concentrated discussion on a specific demand for the grant; and
    - upholding the principle of responsible government by probing the activities of the government.
  - The cut motion does not have much utility in practice. **They are only moved and discussed in the House but not passed as the government enjoys majority support. Their passage by the Lok Sabha amounts to the expressions of want of parliamentary confidence in the government and may lead to its resignation**. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**
- **Passing of Appropriation Bill:**
  - It is the **5th stage** of budget in the Parliament.
  - The Constitution states that '**no money shall be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund of India except under appropriation made by law'**. Accordingly, an appropriation bill is introduced to provide for the appropriation, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, all money required to meet:
    - The grants voted by the Lok Sabha.
    - The expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.
  - The Appropriation Bill becomes the **Appropriation Act** after it is assented to by the President. This act authorises (or legalises) the payments from the Consolidated Fund of India. This means that the government cannot withdraw money from the Consolidated Fund of India till the enactment of the appropriation bill. This takes time and usually goes on till the end of April. But the government needs money to carry on its normal activities after 31 March (the end of the financial year). To overcome this functional difficulty, the Constitution has authorised the Lok Sabha to make any grant in advance in respect to the estimated expenditure for a part of the financial year, pending the completion of the voting of the demands for grants and the enactment of the appropriation bill. This provision is known as the '**vote on account'**. **It is passed (or granted) after the general discussion on the budget is over.** It is generally granted for two months for an amount equivalent to one-sixth of the total estimation. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

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